

10 Nintendo DS consoles to win!

Australian
GEOGRAPHIC

DOMMAG

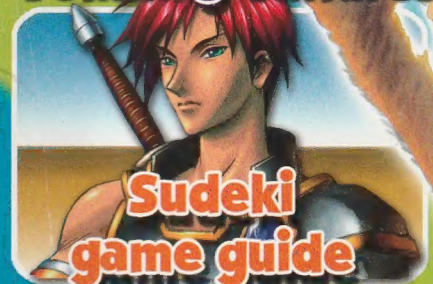
**Masses of
cheats &
reviews!**



Fantastic 4 poster



Vomiting vultures



**Sudeki
game guide**

ISSN 1443-1580



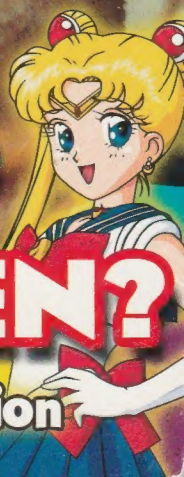
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RM 8.90
Issue 46

**WHO YOU
CALLIN'
CHICKEN?**

Anime action



KONAMI

SHONEN SPOKE
Yu-Gi-Oh!
TRADING CARD GAME
COLLECTIBLE TINS



THE ESSENTIAL DUELIST ELEMENTS

Command the Duel with these essential Yu-Gi-Oh! TCG COLLECTOR TINS!

Play out the power struggle between the elements with the full set of 2005 limited edition tins. These tins are made to fit your Dueling deck and are fully charged with the hottest monster cards yet! Each tin contains one of these limited edition monster cards (Gifford the Lightning, Vorse Radler, Dark Magician Girl, Rocket Warrior, Exarcion Universe, Panter Warrior) and 5 booster packs. There are 6 tins in all, so choose your weapon and alter the structure of dueling!

www.yugioh-card.com

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KONAMI

FEATURING 19 MONSTERS
FROM THE NEW SERIES



A NEW CLASS OF HEROES



Fuel your Duels with the infinite power of Elemental Energy, the newest booster for the Yu-Gi-Oh! TRADING CARD GAME. The Elemental Heroes expand with two new recruits and four incredible Fusion Monsters to combine their strengths! Monsters from the Dark World that won't be easily dismissed by your opponent await your command!



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www.yugioh-card.com

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WELCOME

Hi DMAG Dudes,

Yay! We're on holidays! Luckily DMAG has everything you need for the holiday season – stacks of things to do (pull out our puzzle book on page 51), heaps to read and wonder at and even some cool jokes to try on your friends. But the things we're most excited about are the comps – we have heaps of them – so get entering!

Plus we check out why vultures vomit (you will

not believe how revolting, disgustingly gross vultures are), check out this season's hit movies and test all your fave games. Anyhow, better be going – so have a fab holiday!

Dorothy

PS A big HI! to the kids from Truscott

Street Public School, North

Ryde, who are shown in these pics from the Robosapien V2 launch.



Way out work experience

Did you know that DMAG takes on Year 10 work experience students?

We sure do load them up with work! Testing toys, coming up with quizzes (check out the one Anna and Taibe did this month on page 42) filling up on lollies ... yes it's a hard job but someone's gotta do it. If you would like to do work experience in future, then get in early and email dorothyt@dmag.com.au with details of when you want to do it.

Anna Gudkov from Hornsby Girls' High School and Taibe Lane from Corowa Lane High School were no match for the Robosapien V2.

We asked them what they're doing these hols:

Anna: You'll catch me having a ball at the beach!

Taibe: Swimming in the Murray River and going to the Australian Open.



SHREK

SPECIAL MOVES

GREEN STORM

www.shreksuperslam.com

The logo for the game 'Shrek Super Slam' is prominently displayed at the top. It features the word 'SHREK' in a large, green, stylized font with a small dragon-like creature perched on the letter 'K'. Below 'SHREK' is the word 'SUPER SLAM' in a large, orange, blocky font with a cracked, stone-like texture. The background of the entire page is a textured, parchment-like surface with faint, repeating patterns of the words 'SHREK' and 'SUPER SLAM'.



Grapple as one of 20 hilarious characters in 4-player melee combat.



Slam through 16 fully destructible environments



Battle it out with signature fighting moves
and over 2k cool weapons and magic potions

activision.com.au

PlayStation.2



NINTENDO DS

GAME BOY ADVANCE



Mild
Violence



SHABA
GAMES

AMAZE

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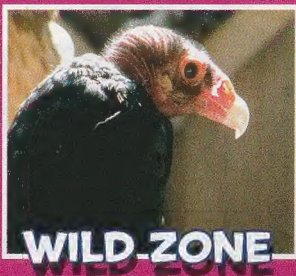
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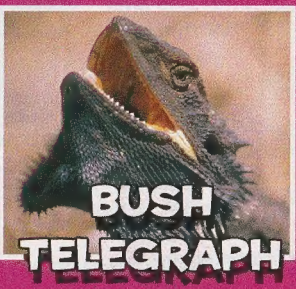
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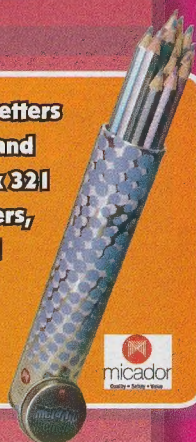


BUSH TELEGRAPH

WRITE THEN

DUDES NEWS

We've received lots of amazing letters this month ... Send your letters and photos to: Dudes News, PO Box 321 Terrey Hills NSW 2084. All letters, photos and pictures published on this page in our next issue will win a wicked Micador metallic pencil set!

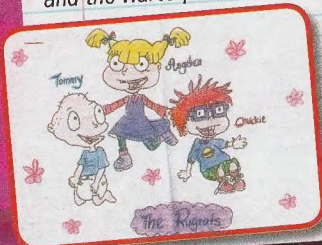


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Quality • Safety • Value

DEAR DMAG,

I'm from West Malaysia and I really love your mag, it totally rocks! My favourite pages are Celebrity and the WartSquall comics. I also love to enter your comps and write you letters. Hope you like my Rugrats picture (Ed. Yep!). From your #1 fan,

CAMILLA, 13



HEY DMAG!

Dudes News
Mega cool
Artists appreciated
Game Guru keeps us filled in

Rock on, and on!
Only the best for fans
Captured in reading
Kangaroos, trees, vomit and so much more
Something for everyone!
Because DMAG ROCKS!
FROM ELANOR, 12.

DEAR DMAG,

You are the best kids' mag around! My brothers get a DMAG delivered every month but it usually disappears into my room after about two days. I like D'News, Pop Gossip, competitions, comics and jokes. My brothers would like to say hello, and thanks for the gifts that come with the mag!

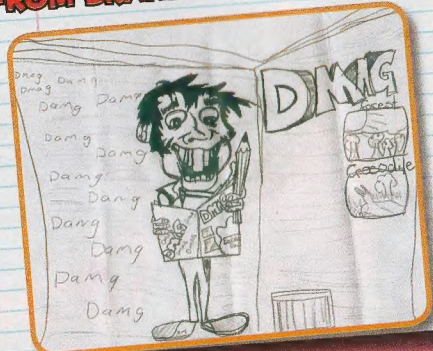
FROM EMILY.



TO DMAG,

Hi, I think your mag is totally cool and really interesting, especially the games and cheats. I hope you like my picture of a dude reading your really cool mag.

FROM BRANDON, 11.



TO DMAG,

Rock on! My name is Ebony, I am 8 years old. I luv Caramello chocolate. My hobbies are reading DMAG, swimming and going to the movies. I can't stop spending my money on DMAG! U rule!

FROM YOUR #1 FAN.

WASSUP DMAG,

Your mag is da best mag of the century!!! You should be in da Guinness World Records for coolest mag around! I got my first DMAG on my b'day when my mum said "You now have a subscription to DMAG." Now I run to the mailbox to get it!

Ya #1 fan,

JOSHUA.

DMAG

Hello, my name is Anna and I live in Picton. I think DMAG rocks and I know DMAG Rocks because I have been getting it for 3 years. ANNA



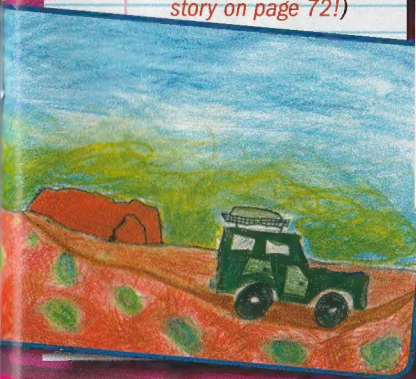
DEAR DMAG,

My name is Emily and I am 7 years old. I have a brother called Tyler and a sister called Amber. My friend's name is Morgan and she has her belly button pierced. My favourite colour is red. DMAG is so, so, so, cool, I read it once a week because it is so, so, so, cool.

LOVE EMILY.

HI,

My name is Daniel, I am 8 years old. We went on a road trip from Melbourne to Uluru. Our car broke down twice. I took my DMAG with me to read in the car. It took three days to get to Alice Springs. DMAG rocks. (Ed. check out our Uluru story on page 72!)



Pet of the Month

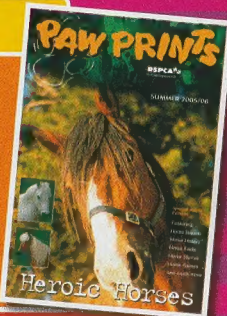
Hi Guys!

If you would like to get a FREE subscription to the RSPCA's Paw Prints magazine, then send in your pet photo to PO Box 321 Terrey Hills NSW 2084!



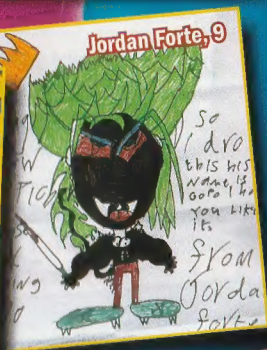
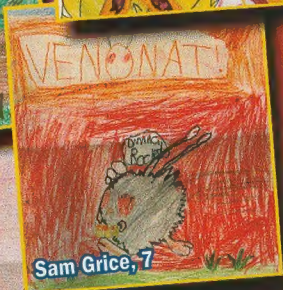
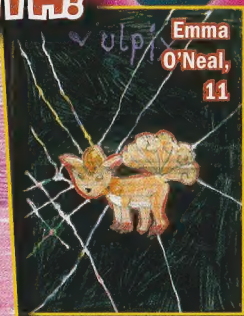
We totally fell in love with this pic sent into us by Emma. It's her gorgeous little bro' holding Mrs Pots,

the chicken! Emma reckons Mrs Pots lays the best eggs you've ever tasted ... yum! You guys can now look forward to receiving RSPCA's Paw Prints mag for a whole year!



ARTISTS

**CHECK OUT DMAG'S ARTISTS
THIS MONTH!**



To win a set of these amazing Faber-Castell watercolour Pencils, send us your drawing. If it's printed, you'll win! Send your drawing to DMAG Artists, PO Box 321, Terrey Hills NSW 2084. See page 114 for terms and conditions.





WALT DISNEY PICTURES and WALDEN MEDIA
PRESENT

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA

"The Lion, The Witch and
The Wardrobe"

RECREATE THE MAGIC AT McDONALD'S.

You could win a \$5000 **MYER** shopping adventure
See your Narnia Happy Meal Box for details and terms and conditions.



Mr Beaver



Aslan



Edmund

8 POP-UP BOOKS AND FIGURINES TO COLLECT



Lucy



Peter



Susan



Mr Tumnus



The White Witch

One toy per Happy Meal. Toys not suitable for children under 3 years. Limited time only. While stocks last. ©2005 McDonald's. THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA, NARNIA, and all book titles, characters and locales original thereto are trademarks of C.S. Lewis Pte Ltd. And are used with permission. © Disney/Walden. Authorised under NSW Permit No. TPL 05/10629; VIC Permit 05/3341; ACT Permit No. TP05/3781; SA T05/3853; NT 05/3161.

From December 16th 2005



Get a detailed pop-up book & figurine
with your favourite Happy Meal food.



WHAT'S GOING ON...

JANUARY

Five **MUST DO** things this month ...



**Celebrate
Australia
Day by
having a
BBQ with
your mates
– why
not see if
your local council is
organising one?**

**If you're going to be near the beach these hols –
why not learn to surf?**



Toon-O-Scope

**Star
of the month:
Capricorn**

Dec. 22 – Jan. 19

Capricorns are reliable, self-assured and ambitious – on a good day. However, if you're the kind of Capricorn that rev-head Coop is, you could show the not-so-great trait of self-doubt. Poor Coop, sometimes his amazing heroics are just accidents, and he ends up destroying more than he protects. Luckily for him, people know his true virtues and appreciate his laid-back attitude and dry sense of humour.

Catch your Cartoon Network Toon-O-Scope Fridays at 4pm and Saturdays at 11:30am.

**CARTOON
NETWORK**

Check out what's on at your local museum or art gallery. Here's our pick of the bunch: *Kids Fest: Ancient Greece* at the Immigration Museum in Melbourne and *Made for this World* at the Queensland Art Gallery.

**Catch one of the
fabulous movies out
now – read on for
inspiration.**

**Write a story for DMAG's
writing competition – see
page 99.**

WIN

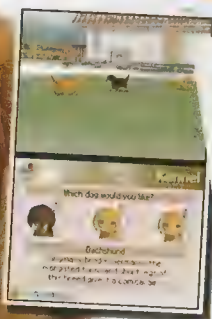
THE ULTIMATE DOGGY BAG... ...WITH NINTENDOGS!

**10 Nintendo DS and
Nintendogs games to win!**

Ever wanted to own your own dog, but can't? Then you need Nintendogs. Choose your puppy, walk it, meet friends, play chase and much more.

We have 10 deliciously doggy packs to win! Each includes a Nintendo DS console and Nintendogs game.

TO ENTER hop online at www.dmag.com.au/competitions.asp log in as a DMAG member and follow the prompts. Online entries must include the code: DM046 1004 to be eligible to win. See page 114 for terms and conditions.



NINTENDO DS

Want to know what's hot and

Nervous Natalie

Natalie Portman was so jittery at the Oscars when she was nominated as Best Supporting Actress, she wet herself. The star had no idea she'd be so nervous as the nominees were led out on the big night.

"I think I peed myself a little bit. I kept thinking, I don't want to go up. I don't want to have to talk in front of a gazillion people."

A nasty underwear disaster was avoided, though, when Natalie lost to Cate Blanchett.

"Hopefully one day I'll enjoy hearing my name called," she said.



Alien alert

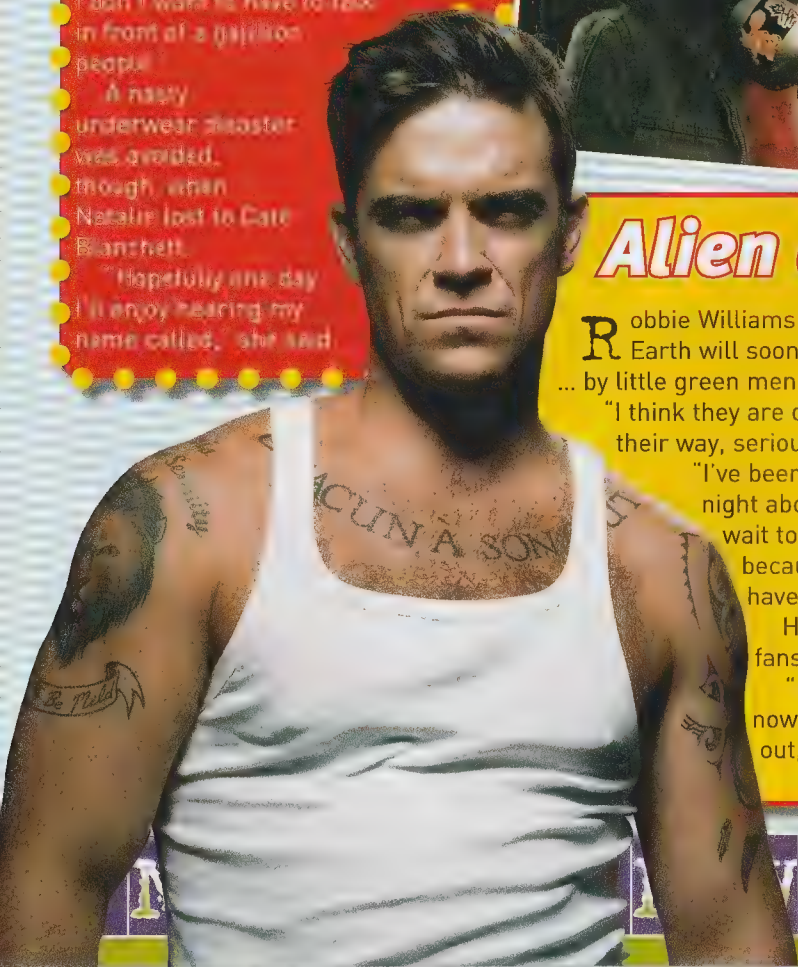
Robbie Williams believes the Earth will soon be invaded ... by little green men!

"I think they are definitely on their way, seriously," he said.

"I've been dreaming every night about UFOs. I can't wait to go to sleep at night, because those dreams have been so brilliant."

He's even warning his fans to be prepared...

"Mark my words. From now until 2012 - watch out, kids."



happening? Then read on...



iz that for real?

If you've used up all your Christmas wishes already, it's time to start thinking about your next birthday present — so check thiZ out! Straight from the New York Toy Fair comes the iZ — create your own rhythms and beats by pressing his belly, twisting his ears and flicking his antennae — then watch him boogie along to your beat! Now all you need is a cool DJ name.

Claire loves hanging around

Claire Danes reckons she turns down A-list party invites ... to stay home and whiz around on her trapeze! "We had a trapeze and a trampoline in our home when I was growing up, and I stole the idea for my own home," she says. "I love it, I watch movies, and I swing on my swing."



A Mort Thort

Never lose the joy of the simple things in life.



With water restrictions it just takes a bit more imagination.



More Mort Thorts @ www.sipahh.com

Life's Good WHEN IT SUX...



Want to know what's hot and h



Lindsay's sparkling surprise

Just days after Lindsay Lohan's headline-making Hollywood car crash, the teen star opened a surprise gift from her mate Nicole Richie — and burst out laughing! Nicole had sent her a brightly-coloured designer crash helmet, covered in glittering jewels. The card read: "To be worn whenever you're in a car!"

Kirsten's teeth

Kirsten Dunst is happy with her crooked smile — despite her mum's constant nagging to straighten her front teeth. "That's one of the things I like about me," she says. "Messed-up teeth are so sexy".

Meanwhile, the *Elizabethtown* star has vowed not to let her kids be child stars. "As a kid, when you perform for people, you love it because you get attention. The danger is that you come to think that's how you get loved — by pleasing people".



Heath Ledger: "I'm outta here"

Heath Ledger has blasted the paparazzi (nuisance celebrity photographers) in Sydney for booting him out of the city! Since fiancée Michelle Williams gave birth to their daughter Matilda a few months ago, the pair have been followed by photographers wherever they go. "I feel the pressure here," says Heath. "I absolutely love my country, but I don't feel like living here anymore. It's breaking my heart." Awww!

Move over, Rodney

If you reckon all robots move like they're from some daggy 80s break-dance clip, you'll be blown away by the Robosapien. Designed by a former NASA physicist, these little guys burp,

fight, dance and move fluidly, just like humans. Programmed with attitude, intelligence, and the ability to fart on cue ... what more could you want?



happening? Then read on...

Bears surprise Brangelina

Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie came face-to-face with two huge bears while holidaying in Canada! Brad was convinced he had surprised burglars, until he came across two

bears rummaging for food in their kitchen.

Apparently Brad rushed Angelina and her kids out of the house, before Angelina had the chance to pull any fancy Lara Croft moves...



Buddy up with FriendChips

Passing notes in class has never been so frivakin' easy! Get your hands on a pair of these cute little hand-held devices and a real mate, then pass and record secret electronic notes. That means no pencils,

no paper, and no teachers confiscating your love letters and reading them out to the class! And your little bro' can't hack into your FriendChip either – it's protected by a secret password Sweet!



Peek over the hedge

Need a movie to look forward to in 2006? Then keep an eye out for *Over the Hedge*. It's a cute-as-flick about a bunch of forest

critters who wake from hibernation to find their forest has been invaded by the 'burbs! The hungry critters slowly venture over the hedge, and find it hard to resist the evil temptations of the brand new world.



Want to know what's hot on t

DVD and Video

The Adventures of Shark Boy and Lava Girl in 3-D

A schoolboy joins forces with his imaginary heroes to save the world of

dreams. Shark

Boy has a

dorsal

fin and

Lava

Girl has

magma

flowing

through

her veins!

Get ready for

non-stop action and

va-va-voom visuals ...

each DVD comes with four pairs of 3-D glasses!

Fantastic 4

Watch this one over and over – you'll still laugh and scream each time!

Five ordinary people get radiated, their DNA changes, and they each develop an incredible superpower. A winning

blend of romance, comedy and drama, with a cast of red-hot stars.

The Place Promised in Our Early Days

This film is chock-full of beautiful, detailed scenery, strong characters, and a really moving storyline ... so keep the tissues handy! Three kids dream



about building and flying a plane to a mysterious tower on the horizon. Their dream turns to reality when terrorists threaten to attack!

Couch Potato

RSPCA: Have you got what it takes?

Each year 2400 applicants compete for just 25 places in the RSPCA inspector training program. Watch the finalists face

undercover investigations and save animals in distress. Which intrepid trainees will be chosen?

Animal Planet, Fridays @ 6:30pm from December 30

King Arthur's Disasters

Follow the crazy adventures of King Arthur, as he tries to win the hand of the demanding Princess

Guinevere. He's helped by his loyal horse, Alan, and the hopeless wizard, Merlin – the real King Arthur would turn in his grave!

ABC, weekdays @ 7:30am



Want to know what's hot on t

he box? Then pull up a chair.

The NickToon Family

Australia's first NickToon family has been found! Now see the cartoon based on the warped life of the Hopkins family! Real stories of bathing, cake-making and eating breakfast drive each crazy episode.

Nickelodeon, Fridays @ 4pm



The Emperor's New School

Emperor Kuzco needs to graduate from Kuzco Academy (a school where one of the subjects is Dung Shovelling!). But the evil hag, Yzma, wants to see him fail!

Disney Channel, Fridays @ 5:30pm from January 6



This is your Captain speaking

Intergalactic conman Captain Jack joins the Doctor and Rose in the awesome new adventures of Doctor Who. DMAG went into the far, far future to meet the charming actor himself, John Barrowman.



DMAG: What was it like being in Doctor Who?

John: A dream come true. Ever since I was a kid I've always wanted to be a part of Doctor Who.

DMAG: Were the Daleks scary?

John: Well the first time I saw one, it brought back memories of hiding behind the sofa when I watched the show as a kid.

DMAG: What was it like working with Daleks?

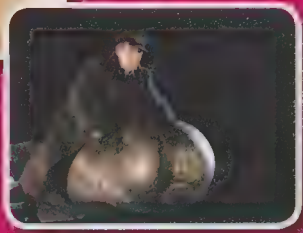
John: There were actually only three Daleks, the rest were all computer generated. Those Daleks were scary.

DMAG: Are Daleks largely misunderstood, or are they just plain bad?

John: Daleks are extremely evil!

DMAG: If you were a time lord in real life, what would you do?

John: Go into the future, to see if our planet survives (lots) warning.



DMAG: Have you got a little pre-jig in Doctor Who?

John: Captain Jack's secreted a gun, which was in the episode The Empty Chest.

DMAG: What's the funniest thing that happened on set with Billy and Christopher?

John: Christopher and Billy were filming a scene with a Dalek. I got hold of the Dalek voice box and started playing them a song in a Dalek voice, which really made them laugh (a hell of a lot). Dr. Who is definitely on DVD.

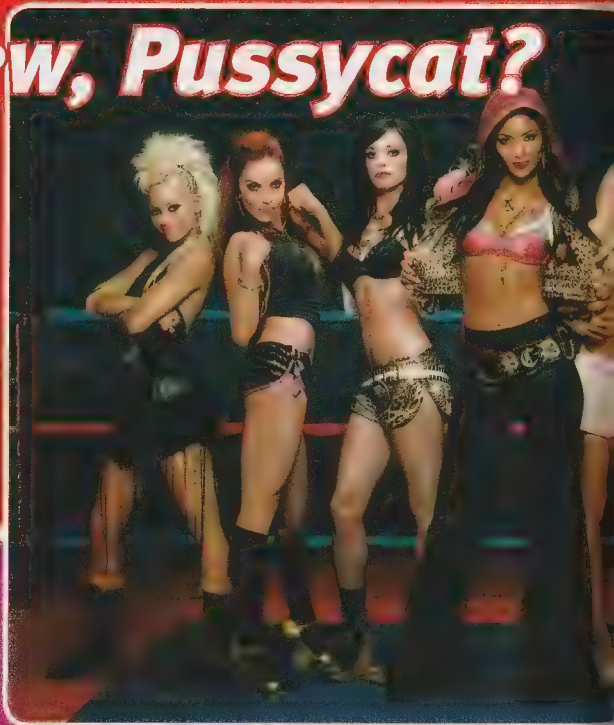


he box? Then pull up a chair.

What's new, Pussycat?

Critics have slammed the Pussycat Dolls after it was revealed their debut single *Don't Cha* was first released by another US singer, Tori Alamaze ... and the versions are almost identical!

While lead singer Nicole Scherzinger doesn't deny the hit song was once recorded by another artist, she believes the Pussycat Dolls deserve their success. "We're good girls, we've been working hard for this our whole lives."



Toni makes the switch

Toni Braxton is changing careers - from acting to rock! "I hear you hear about actors wanting to be rock stars, and it sounds like a nightmare," she says. "But I've been singing since I was 11, it's been a long time coming."

Look out for her band, Toni Braxton and the Finish, their debut album *Beautiful*. Award Picture is due out in 2002.



Oasis hard to please

With a sold-out Aussie tour under their belts, it seems the ball never stops rolling for Brit-rockers Oasis - but guitarist Noel Gallagher's not too happy about it! After picking up two awards at the UK's prestigious Q Music Awards, he's dismissed the current music scene as boring.

"Oasis has been going for 20 years and we shouldn't be getting all the awards," he said. There should be young bands coming through. I'm 38, I shouldn't really be here, it's embarrassing."



REVIEWS

Rihanna – *Music of the sun*

This 17-year-old singer from Barbados captured the dance scene a year ago with her track *Pon De Replay*. Most songs on this debut album have the same reggae feel to them, fused with more standard R&B/pop sounds. You'll be humming for days to come!



Tony Hawk's *American Wasteland*

Instead of throwing together the usual modern punk offerings, this soundtrack features covers from the early days of Californian skateboarding culture. Whether you're a real life skateboarder or a virtual rider, you'll appreciate this one – it rocks!

Charlotte Church – *Crazy Chick*

At 14 years old, Charlotte Church burst onto the international music



scene with a classical album, and now she's back as a pop artist! Her new single *Crazy Chick*, taken from her debut album, boasts an infectious chorus and boppy, Mowtown vibe, showcasing her versatile voice. A new pop anthem from a new pop queen!

Delta's lost without you



Yes you! So pop her *Visualise Tour* DVD into your player pronto. Filmed during one of her Sydney concerts, this latest Delta offering is packed with classics like *Born To Try* and

Out Of The Blue, as well as duets with sweetheart Brian McFadden and a cover of Jet's *Are You Gonna Be My Girl?* Extras include a tour documentary, concert videos and a photo gallery.

Gwen's grown up

Pop superstar Gwen Stefani reckons she'll never attend another grubby rock festival, because she's too old to camp. The singer was recently dragged to Britain's famous Glastonbury festival with her band No Doubt, and says: "The band really wanted to do the festivals. But know what I've been to enough muddy fields... I don't want to do them anymore. I'm a woman now."



Say what?

Having trouble figuring out what Franz Ferdinand's songs are about? Then you'll be happy to know that most of the band doesn't know either! Apparently lead singer Alex Kapranos loves writing songs with hidden meanings, and usually has to explain his cryptic lyrics to his bandmates. "You gotta know what the songs are about," said guitarist Nick McCarthy, "otherwise you don't know how to play them."



The show must go on

Did you catch Jamiroquai's Dynamite tour last month? Well, turns out we're lucky the guys made it to Australia at all. Lead singer Jay Kay hurt his arm severely during the European tour, after their tour bus stopped abruptly and he fell onto a heater. "There was blood everywhere," a source said. "Everyone thought the tour would be cancelled." But seventeen setones was all it took to get the cosmic dude back on the road. Keep an eye out for the Australian Tour Edition album *Dynamite*, in stores now.



He will save the world.



WALT DISNEY
FEATURES PRESENTS

chicken little

PG

Mild Themes,
Some Scary
Scenes

In Cinemas Everywhere January 1.

www.disneymovies.com.au

DISTRIBUTED BY BUENA VISTA INTERNATIONAL ©DISNEY ENT

Congratulations Kate!

After another spine-tingling sing-off, the diva from Bendigo has warbled her way to the Australian Idol title. DMAG just had to find out more about the fabulous Kate DeAraugo...

■ Name

Katherine (Kate) DeAraugo

■ Age

21

■ Star sign

Scorpio

■ Lives

Gold Coast, QLD.

■ Former Occupation

Swimming teacher

■ Australian Idol audition song: *Young Hearts*

■ **When did you first start to sing?** As soon as I could talk.

■ **Did you have any formal singing training?** Yes.

■ **What album would your friends be suprised you own?** Nothing I own would surprise my friends.

■ **Do you have any rituals or things you do each time**

before you perform? No, not really. I just concentrate on not having a nervous breakdown.

■ Favourite male pop artist?

Robbie Williams.

■ **Favourite female pop artist?** Alicia Keys.

■ **Most embarrassing moment?** Nothing to date. Still waiting.

■ **If you couldn't sing, which talent would you most like to have?** I can't imagine not being able to sing. Ummm, let's go with a dancer.

■ **What is your definition of an Australian Idol?** Someone who believes in themselves and what they do. Has the strength to take on whatever

comes at them, and lets nothing stop them from doing what they love.

■ **Who was your favourite judge and why?** Kyle, because he tells it like it is.

■ **What would people be surprised to learn about you?** What you see is what you get. There are no surprises with me.

■ **Who are your heroes in life?** My mum and dad.

■ **What's been your toughest obstacle in life?** Giving up smoking.

■ **If you make it big what would your 'diva' dressing room demand be?** I'd want everything.

LOOK OUT FOR KATE'S DEBUT SINGLE MAYBE TONIGHT, IN STORES NOW.

FROM THE PRODUCER OF **'SHREK'** & **'SHREK 2'**

MEET THE FLOCKERS.



VALIANT

IN CINEMAS JANUARY 5



www.valiantmovie.com

UK girl trio Sugababes is back on the scene in a big way with their new album *Taller In More Ways*. DMAG's UK correspondent Sasha Perera caught up with Heidi from the group for a quick chat...

DMAG: *What are the personalities of each of the members of the Sugababes?*

Heidi: I think Mutya is very laidback – if she were any more laidback, she'd be lying down! Most of the time she doesn't really stress over anything. I suppose I'm quite girly, just a bit of a girly-girl really. Keisha – she's just mad! She can be a bit in-between, but she can have her mad moments.

DMAG: *When you're not working, do you spend a lot of time hanging out together?*

Heidi: We don't really hang out together when we're not working unless there's a party we want to go to, then we'll all go together. We work together

24/7, so the girls are more like family than work colleagues. It's kinda like we finish work, and say 'we'll see you Monday'. Whatever time we do get off I like to go see my boyfriend, and obviously Mutya wants to be with her baby and her boyfriend.

DMAG: *On the new album there's a song called *Ugly* dealing with issues of self-esteem; surely you girls don't have any self-esteem issues?*

Heidi: I have had problems

with confidence on plenty of occasions. I think every girl will understand that – you have days when you feel fat, days when you feel ugly, and days when you just feel like rubbish. The song itself is about points in everyone's life when we feel insecure about ourselves it basically says we're all the same.

DMAG: *The Sugababes toured Australia a few years ago, what are your memories of it?*

Heidi:

I just loved it!

The Sugababes are (l to r): Keisha, Mutya and Heidi.



More Suga

Competition closes 10 January 2006



WIN VALIANT PRIZE PACKS!

INCINEMAS JANUARY 5



To celebrate the movie release of *Valiant*, the hilarious adventures of a World War II homing bird, we have 10 prize packs to give away.

Each pack includes a compass, pencil case, torch, bag, flask and a family in season pass to *Valiant*.



To enter, hop on line at www.dmag.com.au/competitions.asp log in as a DMAG member and follow the prompts. To be eligible to win, all online entries must include the comp code: DM046 1004. See page 114 for terms and conditions.

WWW.VALIANTMOVIE.COM



General



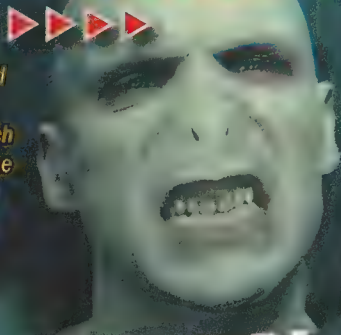
ROADSHOW FILMS

Warning: Fright scenes!

What you are about to see is scary – so turn the page quickly if you're worried about fainting from fright. Yes, we're about to reveal some of the spookiest scenes in *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* ...

Our first proper look at He Who Cannot Be Named – Voldemort.

The scene in which he's created is one of the scariest in the movie – way too scary to show here.

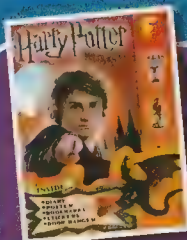


Feel like going swimming these holidays? At least you won't run into one of these!

Harry's competing in the Tri-Wizard tournament and his second task is to recover something dear to him (you won't believe what it is) from the merpeople in the lake.

What's Mad Eye Moody doing here? Well he is a bit of a fright to look at! Keep an eye on him in the movie!

And the grand battle ... the climax of the movie will have you on the edge of your seat!



POTTER THEORIES

If you would like to win a *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* Funfax, then send us your theory on this: what new scary creature will appear in the next Harry Potter book? If your answer is printed in the magazine, you will win.

Send your theories to Potter Theories #46, PO Box 321 Taree NSW 2264.

WIN

-THE CHRONICLES OF-

NARNIA

PRIZE PACKS



IN CINEMAS DECEMBER 26



Walt Disney Pictures and
Walden Media present
*The Chronicles of Narnia:
The Lion, The Witch and
the Wardrobe*. We have 20
Chronicles of Narnia prize
packs to win! Each pack
includes an action figure,
library bag, four Christmas
baubles, photo album and
a snowglobe.

TO ENTER. Draw a picture
of your favourite Narnia
character and send your
entries to: Narnia Comp,
PO Box 321, Terrey Hills
NSW 2084.

See page 114 for
terms and conditions.

PG

Mild Fantasy Violence,
Some Scenes May
Upset Young Children

MOVIE MADNESS

By DMAG's UK correspondent,
Sasha Perera

DMAG: What is it about the classic story that people love so much?

Anna: I think it's so appealing because it really does have everything. You've got talking animals, you've got snow, you've got a battle – pretty much everything you could want.

DMAG: Do you feel like family after all that time on the set together?

William: Absolutely. We're really protective over each other, we stick together.

Welcome to Narnia...

DMAG caught up with two of the lucky, lucky stars of *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Meet Anna Popplewell, who plays Susan, and William Moseley, who plays Peter ...

The stars of Narnia

Sure the kids in *Narnia* were brilliant, but we think the true stars are the creatures. Here's the rundown...

- Mr Tumnus, the faun
- The minotaur
- Satyrs
- Giants
- Dwarfs



DMAG: How long have you been working on this film?

William: I've known Anna for about three years now, we met at the very start of it. 18 months of researching, pre-production, then the seven months filming in New Zealand, two weeks in England, and then there was all this post-production and publicity work in between.

Anna: It was quite weird at first... there were some instances where we had nothing (like at all) so we had to improvise completely, or other times where we had to react to just a piece of tape on a stick, or stuffed animal models, or people pretending to be the creatures.

William: I think because we were acting with characters that weren't actually there on set with us we were really able to use our imaginations.

DMAG: What was your reaction when you first saw the finished film?

William: There were some amazing moments, like when Anna and Georgie cry over Aslan - it was so sad it really shook me up... We hadn't seen all of each other's scenes because everyone was off filming their individual scenes - to see it all together was incredible.

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

OUT: December 26

Four kids, Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy, step through a wardrobe into a magical, snow-covered world that is inhabited with mythical creatures. But it's also kept in perpetual winter by an evil white witch, Jadis, who has the knack of turning her enemies into stone. A massive battle ensues with the children fighting on the side of Aslan the lion - brilliant!

RATING: ★★★★★

SEE IT IF YOU LIKED: *The Lord of the Rings*



DMAG: Tell us about the green-screen acting (the process of acting in front of a green screen, so that special effects can be added later) you had to do - was it hard?

MOVIE MADNESS

The Bakers ARE BACK!

Seen Hilary Duff in *Cheaper by the Dozen 2*? Her hilarious dad's taken the Baker family to Lake Winnetka for the summer hols, and entered them into a cut-throat competition with a rival family! Here's a special **DMAG** sneak peek ...

STARS: Hilary Duff, Steve Martin, Carmen Electra, Eugene Levy.

REVIEW

Hilary Duff has joined the cast of *Cheaper by the Dozen* once again, taking the place of her dad, Steve Martin, in the original film. The cast of this film are all pretty well-known performers – and together,

they're awesome! It's definitely laugh-out-loud from start to finish, as Tom Baker (Steve Martin) turns

a crazy sports contest with a much wealthier dad and his

RATING: ★★★★★

OUT: December 22

SEE IT IF YOU LIKED:

Cheaper by the Dozen (well

derrrr ...) and *Christmas with the Kranks*.

MOST MEMORABLE

QUOTE: "Every dad's entitled to one hideous shirt, and one horrible sweater. It's part of the dad code." – Steve Martin.

Win!

chicken little

Prize Packs

Disney, *Chicken Little*, we have 60 prize packs to give away. Each pack includes, *Chicken Little* plush toy, sticker set, deluxe colouring in book, activity pack and family in-season pass to *Chicken Little*.

To celebrate
the eggs-cellent
new movie from

Competition closes 10 January 2006



To enter, turn to page 55 and colour in the picture. Take it to your nearest Australian Geographic or Socrates store and hand it in.

Competition judged in store

SEE PAGE 114 FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

IN CINEMAS EVERYWHERE JANUARY 1

Zach Braff is a chicken

Does Zach Braff look like a chicken? The DMAG office is hotly debating this point (we do all the fun things). What isn't in doubt is his ability to sound like a chicken. Meet Zach Braff, a.k.a. Chicken Little...

By DMAG's LA correspondent
Michele Manelis

DMAG: What do you see of yourself in Chicken Little?

Zach: There are definitely facial expressions [Ed. - so even he thinks he looks a bit chicken-like!] - especially the stuttering stuff, where he is looking for the right words. Just the faces he makes. You are in this booth alone trying to imagine all of this stuff. Trying to imagine that there is a soda pop can strapped to your back.

DMAG: How has this movie affected the way you appreciate chickens?

Zach: I just

Zach made his movie debut in Garden State.



had chicken for dinner last night and it was dynamite. He (Chicken

Little) is an animated chicken. When a real chicken starts talking to me, I will stop eating them.

DMAG: Do you have a story from when you were a kid where you were picked on - like Chicken Little?

Zach: Not that I want to tell in front of a group of people... But I wasn't into sports. I was a little theatre kid ... I was auditioning for things in New York City when I was 13 or 14 years old. So I definitely did

my own thing. I was a loner in that respect.

DMAG: Were you picked on?

Zach: I was a little picked-on, so I had to find some way to sort of stand out, to make friends because I wasn't doing the sports thing. So what I started doing was trying to make people laugh. Sometimes it was to no avail, but occasionally I started to

make friends that way.

DMAG: Girls always say they are not looking for the stud, they are looking for the guy with the sense of humour...

Zach They say that now. But in high school, they were looking for the studly guy. Now, I never knew it could be so great to be the funny guy.

DMAG: Why at 13 did you want to

FAST FACTS

NAME: Zach Braff

BORN: 6 April 1975 in New Jersey, USA

MOVIES: *Chicken Little* (voice), *Garden State*

TV SERIES: *Scrubs*

do acting so badly?

Zach Actually it was at 8. My father, the lawyer, did community theatre and I saw him in a production of *Hello Dolly* ... while other kids were going "Dad, take me to the baseball game," I was going to see him do *Hello Dolly* and I thought it was the coolest thing I had seen in my whole life.

DMAG: How much writing are you doing?

Zach None ... I work 14 hours

day on *Scrubs* (a TV series). And then I do *Chicken Little* junkets on my weekends. So I am not really getting home and feeling inspired at the



computer. When I wrote *Garden State* (a movie he directed & acted in), it was before *Scrubs* had started...

CHICKEN LITTLE

STARS: Zach Braff,

Joan Cusack

Chicken Little's still upset

over his embarrassing "the sky is falling" episode - no one will let him forget it. But when a sky-patterned plane falls from a spaceship, it's up to Chicken and his closest pals (all marvellous misfits - see our quiz on the next page) to save the town of Oakley Oaks and his reputation.

STARS: ★★★★★

SEE IT IF YOU LIKED: *Home on the Range*



WARNING: this quiz might prove you're a chicken. Or an ugly duckling. Or maybe even a fish out of water.

Don't take it personally, we're not making fun of you. We're just saying that if you were to appear in the movie *Chicken Little* (it could happen!), you'd probably be one of these characters...

Do you love karaoke singing?

Do you feel you don't live up to your parents' expectations?

Would you like to go on a student exchange program?

If an alien spaceship were to land in your backyard, would you investigate it?

Do people always believe what you say?

Would you like to be on Australian Idol?

Do you love going on scary rides?

Chicken Little



You always try your hardest, make a loyal friend and you're actually pretty brave. If you're anything like Chicken Little, you're also kinda cute...

Runt of the Litter

OK don't stress. We are comparing you to a pig. But what a pig! You're great fun to party with, love hanging with your friends and shine through in times of need.



Fish Out of Water

Wow! You're up for anything. You enjoy life to the max but you're also happy to go with the flow (must be the fish in you). You're happy in any environment.



Do you
always try
hard at
sport?

Are you a
good mover
(and shaker?)

Are you good
at talking
through your
problems?

Do you like
reading self-
help columns in
magazines?

Have you ever
had a secret
crush on
someone?

Abby Mallard

So what if Abby's
an ugly duckling?
She's beautiful on
the inside - just like
you -- (tell your friends
to stop puking). You have
loads of character and love
helping people.



ARE YOU CHICKEN?

All self-respecting adventure fans should see **Valiant** this month – it's a hilarious flick about a bunch of misfit pigeons who venture off to become World War II heroes – and it's based on fact! Animals have saved thousands of human lives over the years, and their stories are amazing. Check 'em out...



Courageous

FLYING HEROES

When communication breakdowns hit during WWI, pigeons were used to deliver vital messages across enemy lines because they could travel silently and usually unnoticed. The brave little fellas had messages attached to their legs or in capsules attached to their backs, and used their homing instincts to find their way back to base.

The following feathery daredevils performed so valiantly they were awarded the highest honour handed out for animal bravery – the Victoria Cross.

WINKIE

Winkie was the first pigeon to receive a Distinguished War Medal. As a warplane she was flying over had engine trouble and



was forced to crash into the ocean. As the plane hit the water, Winkie broke free and headed for home to Scotland – travelling over 220 kilometres! Distressed and exhausted,

she arrived home where her owner was able to tell how long she'd been flying for. Combined with the last known position of the aircraft, this information helped the search party find the plane, and the crew was saved!

GI JOE

GI Joe was awarded for making the most incredible flight by an American army pigeon in World War II. He flew

32 kilometres in 20 minutes, carrying a message on his back that arrived just in time to save at least 100 British soldiers from being bombed by their own planes!



from his own injuries, then gave the crew comfort and companionship while they were held hostage for 100 days.

MAN'S BEST FRIEND

A parachuting dog? Yep! During WWII a working farm dog called Rob was awarded for parachuting in behind enemy lines with his SAS unit. He was

trained to protect the exhausted troops as they slept in between their undercover operations!

OUR HOME-GROWN HERO

Heard of Lulu the kangaroo? She was honoured with one



Image trickery by Kevin

DID YOU KNOW?

The Valiant animators were given an original Dickin Medal for animal bravery, which they proudly displayed in their studio to remind them that little pigeons really did complete incredible, brave journeys during WWII, and saved lots of lives!

of the RSPCA's highest awards for animal bravery after helping save the life of an Aussie fighter. Lulu attracted the attention of a farmer's family after he was knocked unconscious by a falling tree branch during a storm. Turns out Lulu also saved Len from poisoning on his own volition by looking him on his stool!

VALIANT

STARS: Ewan McGregor, Ricky Gervais, John Cleese. **Out:** 5 January 2002. Flying Valiant the pigeon has small wings, but big plans – to deliver the most important message of the war across enemy lines. To succeed, he and his mates must get past the scariest of enemy birds – the dreadful Wacos. General von Talon. A huge cast, only involving and six-inch animation make this Rick-a-must-see. But beware the ball-bait jobs!

RATING: ★★★★★
SEE IT IF YOU
LIKED: Finding Nemo

critters!

SIMON THE BRAVE

Between 1943 and 1949, 32 Dickin Medals were awarded to pigeons, 18 to dogs, three to horses ... and one to a cat!

That's right Simon the cat was a rat-catcher on the HMS Amethyst. After the ship was attacked on a river in China, Simon bravely recovered



BEEN PLAYING UP LATELY? IF YOU'VE SEEN NANNY MCPHEE YOU'LL KNOW THAT STRANGE LADIES CAN SHOW UP ON YOUR DOORSTEP AT ANY TIME AND WHIP YOU INTO SHAPE! BETTER BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THESE NANNIES...

■ NANNY MCPHEE

Mr Brown is dad to seven of the naughtiest kids in the world – they've driven away 17 nannies and reckon they'll have no trouble with the next one! But

then Nanny McPhee shows up. Warty and buck-toothed, she seems scary at first, but you'll soon warm to her. When she taps her walking stick, magical things happen!

Look out for the mega food fight finale, complete with jelly, cakes, pies, special effects and lots of cream! *Nanny McPhee* is in cinemas January 12 2006.



Brats, beware

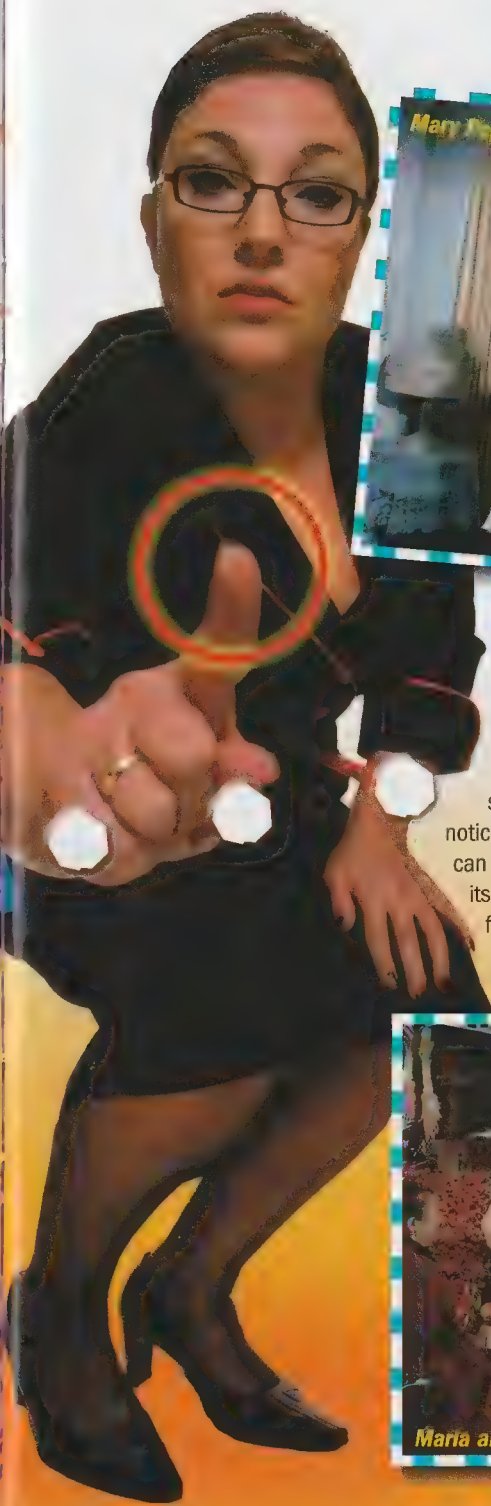


Nanny McPhee.



■ THE SUPER-NANNY

Jo Frost is a real life TV Nanny McPhee, without the magic powers. She turns screaming demon-children into little angels using her world-famous parenting techniques, like going to sit on the Naughty Step! The Super-Nanny will be back on Channel 7 in 2006 -- aagh!



Mary Poppins

■ FRAN FINE

She had style!
She had flair!
She was there ...
Fran Fine knocks on the door of a rich Manhattan family and accidentally lands a nanny job! The lady with the whiniest voice in New York squirts a bit of sauciness into their prim, proper lives.

■ MARY POPPINS

Mary slides down banisters, makes chalk drawings come to life and bursts into song at a moment's notice. But best of all, she can make a room clean itself! Hey Mary, you free this Friday?

Mary Poppins is out now on DVD.

■ MARIA FROM THE SOUND OF MUSIC

A wacky singing nun who's sent off to become a nanny for Captain von Trapp and his seven kids. Corny but cute, Maria wins them over with love, music and new clothes made out of curtains. Sing along to the *Sound of Music* 40th Anniversary Karaoke DVD.



Maria and the von Trapps

QUIZ

No, we haven't made a spelling mistake! This really is a HORROR scope (as opposed to a horoscope).

So what's in store for 2006? Monsters and mayhem? Or flowers and fairies? Take our quiz to find out! You'll need a dice, a deck of cards, two slices of bread and some jam...

1 Look at your left palm. Find the line beginning between the index finger and the thumb and curving across the middle of the palm until it ends near the middle of your wrist. Measure its length - how long is it?

- (a) 0 - 2cm
- (b) 3 - 5cm
- (c) 6 - 8cm
- (d) More than 8cm

2 Make a wish about your money today and then roll a dice. What number do you get?

- (a) 1 and 6
- (b) 2 and 5
- (c) 3 and 4

3 Get two pieces of bread and put a blob of jam on one slice. Then squash them together. Pull the slices apart and see the shapes that have been made. Which of the following look the most like the shapes being made?

- (a) Square
- (b) Triangle
- (c) Star
- (d) Circle

4 Write down the numbers of the day and month in which you were born then add them up. For example, 2nd February becomes $2 + 2 = 4$. What did you get between?

- (a) 2 - 22
- (b) 23 - 28
- (c) 29 - 31
- (d) 32 - 45

5 Get a deck of cards and pick a card out at random (no peeking!) You get...

- (a) A club
- (b) A spade
- (c) A diamond
- (d) A heart

6 What is the first letter of your first name?

- (a) A - F
- (b) G - L
- (c) M - S
- (d) T - Z

7 Which horoscope sign are you?

- (a) Capricorn, Aries, Leo
- (b) Scorpio, Libra, Sagittarius
- (c) Aquarius, Virgo, Cancer
- (d) Pisces, Gemini, Taurus

YOUR 2006

8 Count the number of clocks and watches in your household. How many do you have?

- (a) None - that's why you're always late
- (b) 1-2
- (c) 3-4
- (d) More than 5

9 Which of the following is your favourite animal?

- (a) Snake
- (b) Pig
- (c) Horse
- (d) Dog

10 What is your favourite day of the week?

- (a) Wednesday
- (b) Sunday or Monday
- (c) Friday or Saturday
- (d) Thursday or Tuesday

How to score:

Add up your points for each question.

- (a) = 1
- (b) = 2
- (c) = 3
- (d) = 4



BETWEEN 10 AND 20

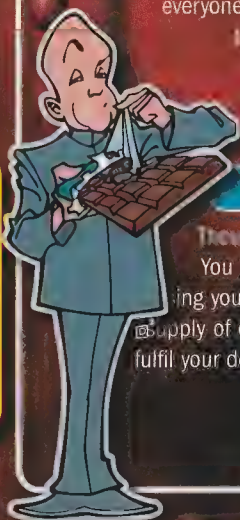
Your future is looking swimmingly super! Your zest for life and colourful personality opens the possibility for new friends. However, look out for the evil garden gnomes who are prophesied to take over your household and keep your family hostage - they may promise

Candy but you know what is underneath those innocent smiles.

BETWEEN 21 AND 30

You are the chosen one! Born out of the shadows, you will rid the world of chain saw wielding psychopaths - monkeys! You're a natural leader, which is why everyone looks up

to you and loves to ask for your advice. Be brave and face your fears - only then will you unleash the hero within.



BETWEEN 31 AND 40

Thought you were one of a kind? Well you're not! You have been cloned by an evil scientist that is using your evil twin in his plan to take over the world's supply of chocolate! This must be stopped ... you must fulfill your destiny and eat all the chocolate before Dr evil can complete his evil plan.

By Anna Cusker and Tobe Lane

VENOMOUS LIZARDS

Just when you thought it was safe to go out – scientists have discovered that many of Australia's lizards are venomous too. The humble bearded dragon, for instance, carries a classic rattlesnake venom. It turns out most of Australia's monitor lizards and iguanas carry deadly toxins, but luckily in dosages so small that they won't harm humans. Scientists were surprised by the finding because they previously thought that it was bacteria in the lizard's mouth that caused rapid swelling after a bite. But just like snakes, these lizards have mouth glands that secrete the venomous toxins. Dr Bryan Fry who carried out the research stresses that the venoms won't hurt humans, they're only used to kill prey. Lucky we're not mouse sized!

Streamwatch winners

DMAG was lucky enough to attend the Streamwatch Awards and be amazed at all the great work being done by school and community groups

Bearded dragons carry rattlesnake venom.

Brookvale Public School was highly commended for Streamwatch's Creative Award.

POO IF YOU'RE IN LOVE!

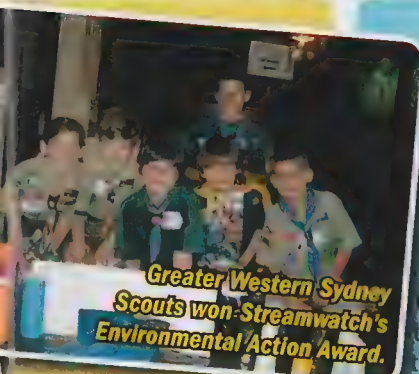
Valentine's cards? Who needs them! Flowers? Pah! All you need is poo... Yes if you're in love and you're a quoll, you say it with poo. Monica Ruibal at the Australian National University has just finished researching the poos – or scats – of spotted-tailed quolls. Quolls are cat-sized native carnivores. Like cats, they tend to be loners, so when they need to pass a message on – like they're ready for some loving! – they do it with poo. Monica found that the number of scats increased in creek beds from mid-March to June. "Basically the quolls are saying 'I'm here and I'm ready to mate'," Monica told the ABC.



Spotted-tailed quolls say it with poo...

ARE WE THERE YET?

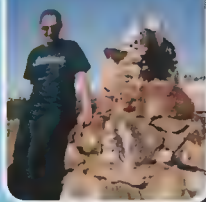
If you're going on a long car trip these school holidays, then take some advice from adventurer Lucy Carr. She's just returned from a two-week driving holiday with her family. They covered thousands of kilometres in an Australian Geographic expedition following in the footsteps of Captain Starlight. Here's her list of things to take so you don't get bored:



Greater Western Sydney Scouts won Streamwatch's Environmental Action Award.

to clean up our waterways. Congratulations to all the winners! If you'd like to get involved next year, then see streamwatch.org.au.

The ruin at Hill Hill Station.



- Camera
- Something to play music (she took an iRiver, which is like an iPod)
- Books to read
- Sketch pad to draw things on along the way
- A notebook (you can keep a diary) and pencil case
- Lollies, fruit and drinks

The Frog Freak

What kind of freak would spend every night tracking frogs with a radio transmitter? A rather wonderful one, as *DMA8* discovered...



Frogs are caught ... tagged ... bagged ... and weighed before being released.

Jodi Rowley is a frog freak. Every night she dons her headlamp, arms herself with a radio receiver and an oversize TV aerial, heads into the wilderness and sloshes around in the rainforest – just to find a frog.

Once found, the frog is weighed, and its temperature and sex recorded. Then – after all that effort – Jodi lets the frog escape. And then she looks for more...

FROGGING FUN

OK we love frogs as much as the next person – and there's nothing as much fun as mucking around in creeks looking for frogs and tadpoles.

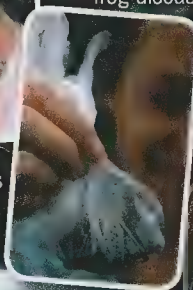
But isn't Jodi taking this frog

are rapidly becoming extinct.

One of the things that researchers think is killing them is Chytrid fungus, which occurs naturally in the ground but seems to be killing frogs lately. Jodi has made it her mission to find out why.

"Chytrid disease development has a lot to do with temperature," says Jodi. "In lab tests, the fungus dies within four days at 32°C, faster if it's hotter. It does best at 23°C. I haven't properly analysed my data yet but it appears the frogs that have declined, such as the waterfall frog, do really fungus-friendly things."

business a bit too seriously? Someone has to. Many species of frog



frogs, preferring to hold them in plastic than touch them with her bare skin. But things can get a bit tricky when you're trying to tie a tiny radio transmitter onto a frog using a piece of cotton thread and a little strip of silicon tubing.

"We fit the tag to the frog

FRAGILE FROGS

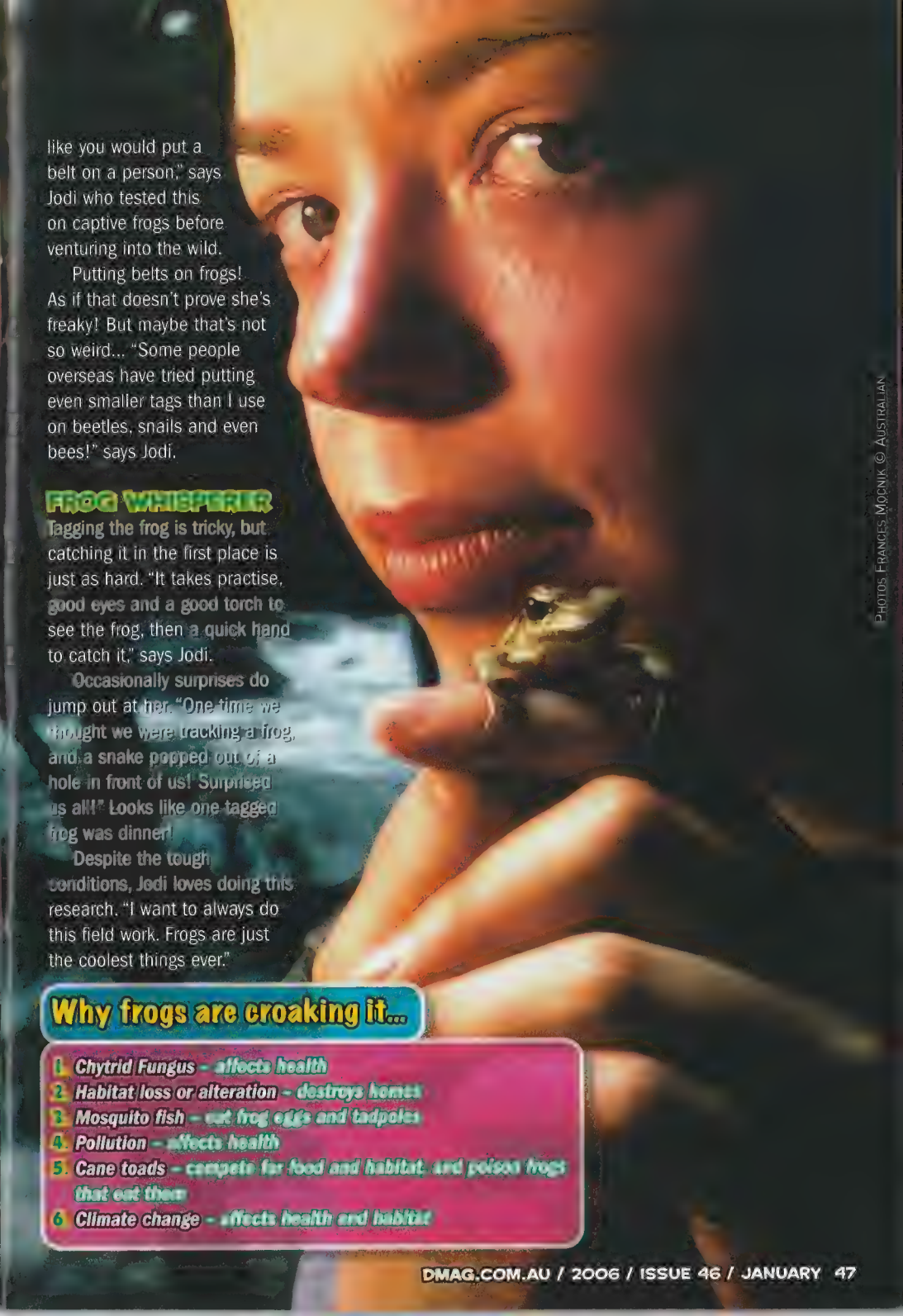
Frogs, it seems, are fragile amphibians. They breathe through their skins, so contact with common household chemicals – like bug repellent or sunscreen – can kill them.

"It's really best not to touch frogs unless you have to," says Jodi. "If you have clean (but not soapy) hands, you can hold a frog ... but just make sure you don't touch one frog after another, as you could spread frog diseases."

FROG TAG

Jodi is careful when she handles the





like you would put a belt on a person," says Jodi who tested this on captive frogs before venturing into the wild.

Putting belts on frogs! As if that doesn't prove she's freaky! But maybe that's not so weird... "Some people overseas have tried putting even smaller tags than I use on beetles, snails and even bees!" says Jodi.

FROG WHISPERER

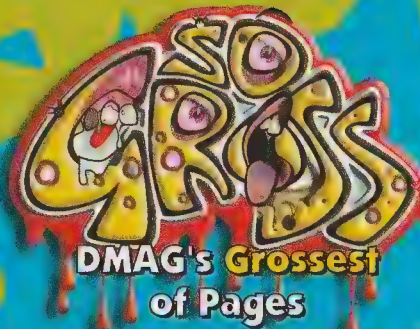
Tagging the frog is tricky, but catching it in the first place is just as hard. "It takes practise, good eyes and a good torch to see the frog, then a quick hand to catch it," says Jodi.

Occasionally surprises do jump out at her. "One time we thought we were tracking a frog, and a snake popped out of a hole in front of us! Surprised us all! Looks like one tagged frog was dinner!"

Despite the tough conditions, Jodi loves doing this research. "I want to always do this field work. Frogs are just the coolest things ever."

Why frogs are croaking it...

- 1 Chytrid Fungus - affects health
- 2 Habitat loss or alteration - destroys homes
- 3 Mosquito fish - eat frog eggs and tadpoles
- 4 Pollution - affects health
- 5 Cane toads - compete for food and habitat, and poison frogs that eat them
- 6 Climate change - affects health and habitat



DMAG's Grossest of Pages

Why do dogs eat poo?

It might seem totally disgusting to us, but the habit of eating poo – called coprophagia – is a common doggy trait. A dog with a diet



lacking in vitamins might eat it because poo has some nutrients. The habit might also hark back to times of survival in the wild, when dogs scavenged for food. Or a dog might develop the taste for poo when it's bored – for instance, if it's been in a kennel for a long time. There's no definite answer, but one thing's for sure – don't let the dog lick your face afterwards!

Question from Tom Byles

Does a dung beetle really hide its babies in poo?



Dung beetles have a love affair with poo – they're named after the stuff! They take dung into an underground nest where they roll it into balls and lay eggs in it. Larvae then hatch from the eggs and feast on the poo! Cow dung contains half-digested grass and a really bit nutritious liquid – and it's the poo that dung beetles love the most!

Question from Nelson J. Alder

What happens if you leave your lunch in your lunchbox for too long?



Let's say your lunchbox contains a ham sandwich, a carton of milk, some strawberries and a Christmas candy cane. After a couple of days, bacteria would grow in the milk, making it smell and taste awful, and look clotted. The ham would be attacked by yeasts, producing a foul stench and a pinky slime. Your strawberries would grow a grey, fuzzy mould and your bread a green fuzzy coat and a terrible musty smell. But luckily, your candy cane would survive!

Question by Justin Schroder

Would you like us to answer a gross question?



Send us a question and the best three will win a So Gross book! Send your question, written on the back of an envelope

with your name, age and address to:

DMAG So Gross Competition
PO Box 321 TERREY HILLS NSW
2084. See page 114 for terms and conditions.



DWING

OWN IT ON DVD



Midwest
Video
Company

PG

FANTASTIC 4



Handy All-Out

A collage of various documents, including a large 'OK' stamp, a 'RECEIVED' stamp, and a 'NOTED' stamp, along with handwritten notes and a small photograph. The documents are layered and overlapping, creating a complex visual. The 'OK' stamp is prominent in the upper left, while the 'RECEIVED' and 'NOTED' stamps are in the upper right. Handwritten notes and a small photograph are scattered throughout the collage.

The photograph shows a document page with a prominent dark stain at the top. The text below the stain is in a non-Latin script, likely Hindi or Urdu, and is mostly illegible due to blurring and the stain. The text appears to be a list or a series of short paragraphs. The page is otherwise blank with some faint lines and markings.

■ Life as a shiny black witch's cat:
Check out our wickedly entertaining extract from *Cosmo and the Magic Sneeze*, page 62.

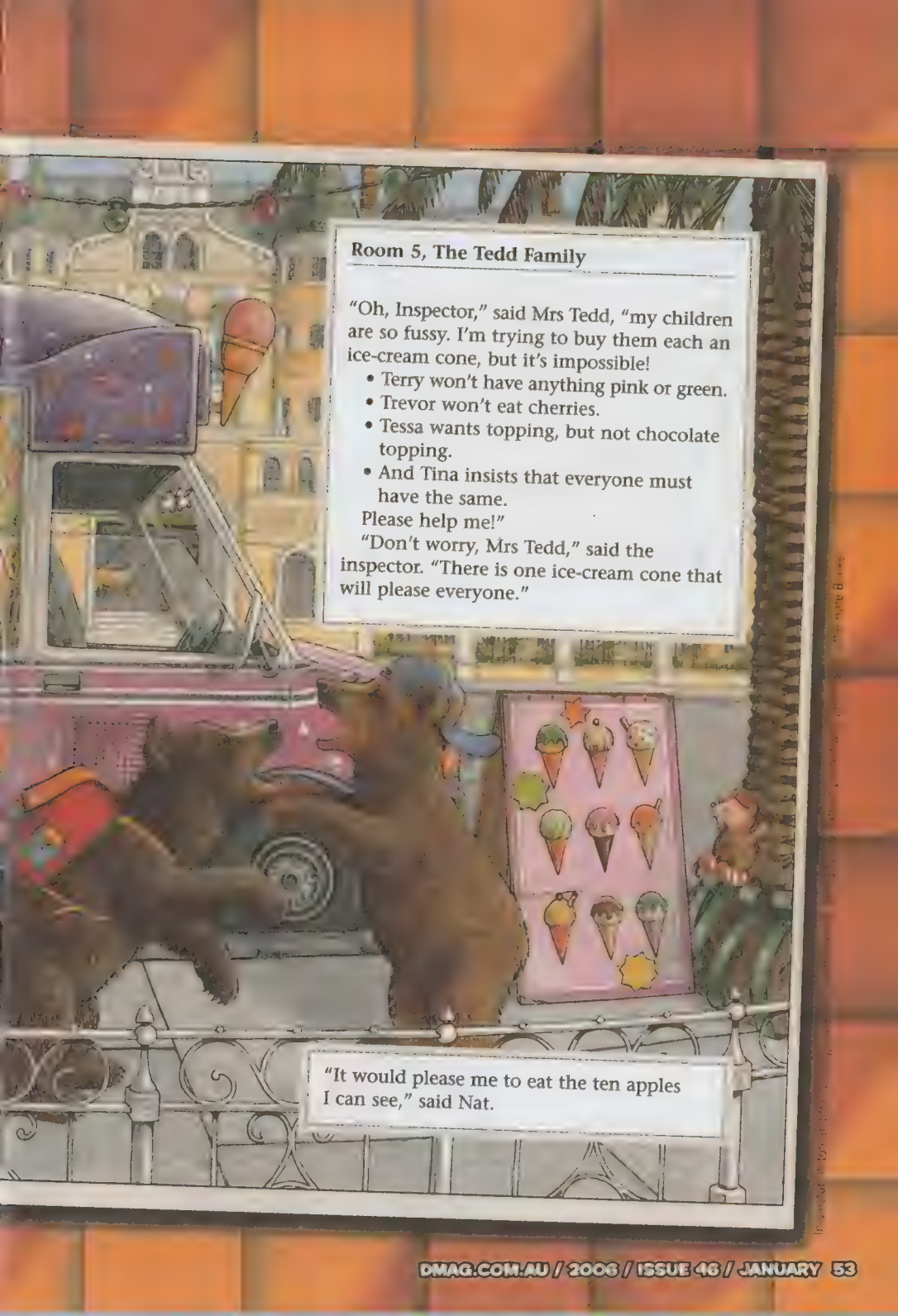
PUZZLE

INSPECTOR STILTON

& the missing jewels

Think you're good at puzzles? Then try this one from the fabulous new book by Judith Rossell. You have to solve the problem with the ice cream cones AND find ten cunningly hidden apples.



An illustration of a city street scene. In the foreground, two brown bears are standing on a sidewalk. The bear on the left is wearing a red backpack and is looking towards a pink ice cream truck. The bear on the right is looking at a display board that shows ten different ice cream cones. The ice cream truck has a large sign on its side that says "ICE CREAM". In the background, there are buildings, palm trees, and a string of colorful balloons. The scene is set in a sunny, warm environment.

Room 5, The Tedd Family

"Oh, Inspector," said Mrs Tedd, "my children are so fussy. I'm trying to buy them each an ice-cream cone, but it's impossible!

- Terry won't have anything pink or green.
- Trevor won't eat cherries.
- Tessa wants topping, but not chocolate topping.
- And Tina insists that everyone must have the same.

Please help me!"

"Don't worry, Mrs Tedd," said the inspector. "There is one ice-cream cone that will please everyone."

"It would please me to eat the ten apples I can see," said Nat.

SANTA'S MISSING LIST

We found a secret list of Christmas items they were written by Santa's elves. But unfortunately it is written in Elvish and we can't decode it! We've done the first word but you have to do the rest!

- 1 ? ✓ ● 📦 ✓ □ + ✓ 📦 ?
- 2 □ ✓ ● ♥ ⊖ □ ✓ ● 📦
- 3 ♥ 📦 □ 📦 ✕ ✓ 📦 ⓘ 📦 ● ?
- 4 📦 ⓘ ● ? 📦 +
- 5 📦 📦 ♥ ♥ ⓘ ● 📦
- 6 📦 ✓ ⓘ ✕ ⊖ + ⓘ 📦 📦 ?
- 7 📦 ✕ 📦 ? 📦 ● 📦 ?
- 8 ✕ 📦 ⓘ ● ♥ 📦 📦 ✕
- 9 📦 + 📦
- 10 📦 📦 ⊖ ?
- 11 ⓘ ✕ ✓ 📦 📦 ⓘ ● 📦 📦 ✓ 📦 📦 ✕
- 12 ? + 📦 ⓘ 📦 📦
- 13 📦 ✓ 📦 📦 + 📦

1 SANTA CLAUS

- 2 -----
- 3 -----
- 4 -----
- 5 -----
- 6 -----
- 7 -----
- 8 -----
- 9 -----
- 10 -----
- 11 -----
- 12 -----
- 13 -----

NOW TRY DECODING THIS...

- 📦 📦 ? 📦 📦 ✕ ⊖ 📦 📦 📦
- 📦 📦 📦 ♥ 📦 📦 ? 📦 📦 ✕
- ⓘ 📦 ⓘ + + 📦 📦
- 📦 ✕ ⓘ ? 📦 ! ✓ ?



COLOUR ME



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chicken little



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Some Scary
Scenes

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Age:

Address:

Phone:



WORDFIND

NARNIA WORD FIND

By Todd Linn

S U S A N T L A M N T Z H F L
M S A F S P E L L S H I U O S
K W I T C H L A W L R L N R B
V I A R Q S F O L E O U T E A
Q Q N R F K R P H D N C I S T
L U G G D D D B G G E Y N T T
I J E N A R N I A E Y X G X L
O I G E N F O L F Z D Q Y R E
N W E E N F O B W O A S L A N
W P I D Q E G P E N J H W M T
S I C N M F R E E Z I N G A W
T O N M T U D P E T E R F G T
A C U D E E N D W A R F L I J
G F A U N B R D U O C V O C P
B E A V E R S P V S N O W K Z

ASLAN
BATTLE
BEAVERS
DWARF
EDMUND
ELF
FAUN
FOREST
FREEZING
HUNTING

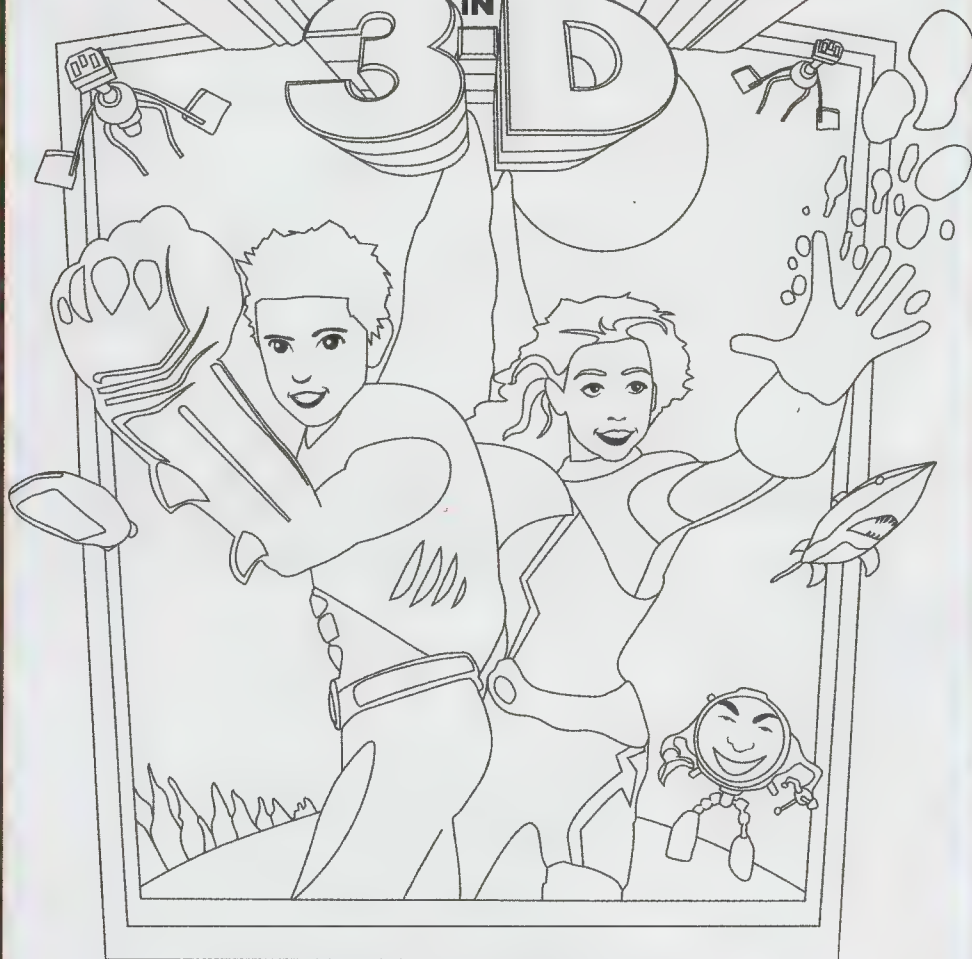
KING
LION
LUCY
MAGIC
NARNIA
PETER
QUEEN
SLEDGE
SNOW
SPELLS

STAG
SUSAN
SWORD
THRONE
WARDROBE
WIND
WINTER
WITCH
WOLF

Catch *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* in cinemas December 26.

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MIRAMAX



CHILLING AT THE BEACH...

CLUES

ACROSS

1. Tennis, cricket and soccer are all... (6)
3. Bucket and ... (5)
5. You do this to get a tan (7)
6. Flipper was a ...? (7)
8. You dry yourself with this (5)
10. Break over the summer months (7)
12. Another word for below the surface (10)
13. At the beach you surf the ... (5)
15. This can be used to protect you from the sun (8)
19. Queensland's most famous natural landmark (5, 7, 4)
21. A milky cold dessert (8)
22. The fiery ball in the sky (3)
23. What makes up a reef? (5)
24. Place renown for hula skirts (6)
26. What fits up with air and drives the boat forwards? (4)
27. Of foreign origin (6)
29. Which water sport involves riding a board in waves? (7)
31. The name of a beach and surrounded by water? (6)

DOWN

11. Something you do to celebrate a birthday (5)
12. Used for shade (8)
14. Scary fish with sharp teeth and a fin (5)
16. The beach has plenty of this element (5)
17. An outdoor activity that involves a meal (6)
18. Where sand meets the sea (5)
20. Act of catching fish (7)
23. It has pincers (4)
25. Hawaiian greeting (5)
28. Rock, pop and country are all types of ... (5)
30. A fine, grainy material found on the beach (4)
32. Pacific island group popular with tourists (4)
34. Large body of water (4)

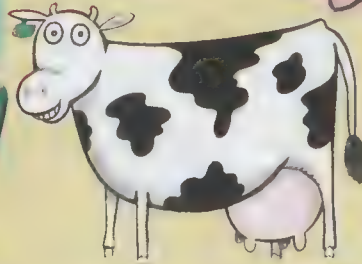
W
O
R
D
M
I
X

Example



+

= hamstring



Mr Howard

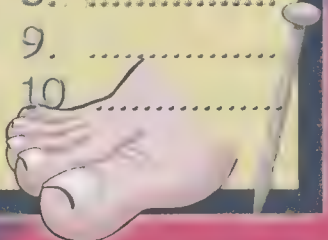
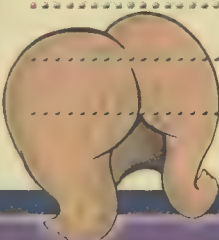
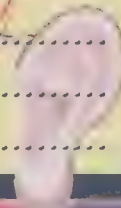


Put the drawings
together, in pairs,
to create 10 new words

1. whisk
2. fish
3. ...
4. ...

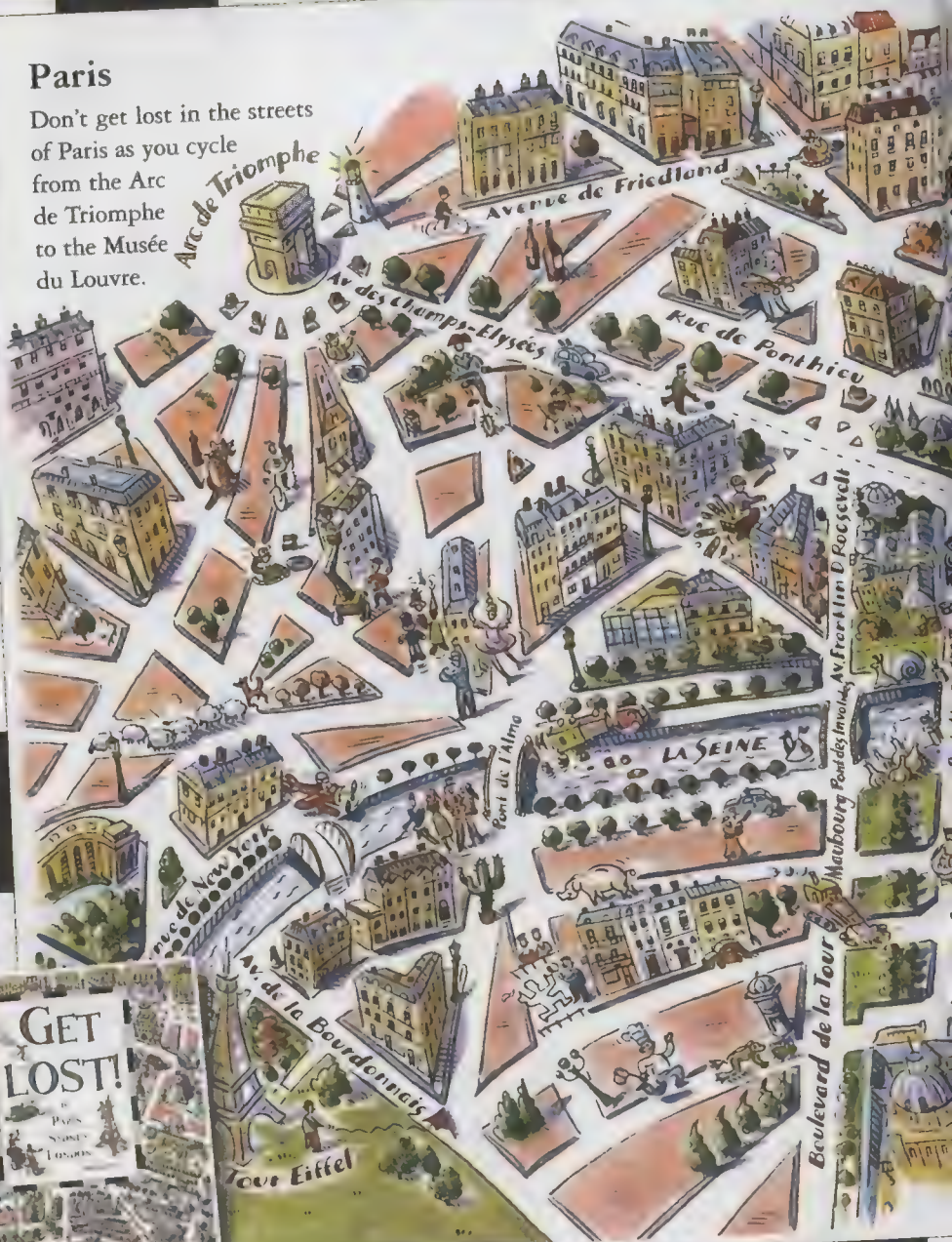
5. ...
6. ...
7. ...

8. ...
9. ...
10. ...



Paris

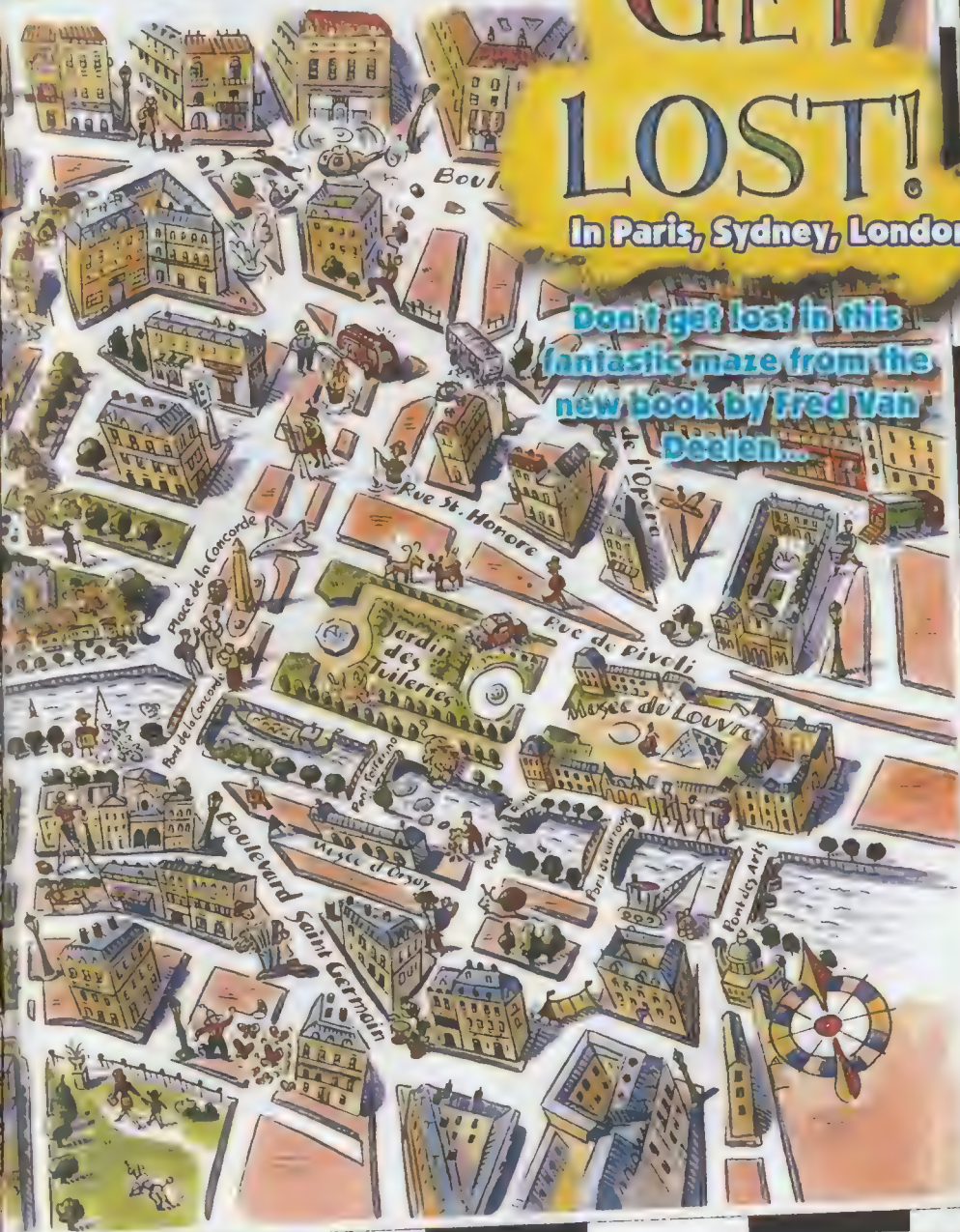
Don't get lost in the streets of Paris as you cycle from the Arc de Triomphe to the Musée du Louvre.



GET LOST!

In Paris, Sydney, London

Don't get lost in this
fantastic maze from the
new book by Fred Van
Deelen...



Cosmo and the Magic Sneeze

Here for your holiday reading pleasure is the whole first chapter from Gwyneth Rees' latest book ... we'd like you to meet Cosmo, the would-be witch-cat...



1

Cosmo hated it when his mother gave him one of her really thorough washes. Her tongue was relentless as it cleaned his face, under his chin, the top of his head and even inside his ears. That bit was ticklish and Cosmo always wriggled, but his mother just placed her big white paw on top of him to stop him getting away.



Cosmo's mother was called India and she was a beautiful, pure white, short-haired cat with emerald-green eyes. Her great-great-grandmother had been a cat of a high pedigree flown to this country from India when her human family had moved here.

'Are there witch-cats in India too?' Cosmo asked her now, as India finished licking and moved back to inspect her work.

'Of course,' his mother answered. 'And in China and Africa and Australia and every other country in the world. Now sit there and keep clean until your father arrives. If I see you move from that spot, there'll be trouble.' 'I'm glad your ancestors came from India,' Cosmo chattered. 'Because it's such a beautiful name. It would have been awful if your ancestors came from a country with a horrible name, wouldn't it?'

His mother just smiled and said that if



they had then she wouldn't have been named after it.

'You'd have been named Snowie or something, wouldn't you, Mother?' Cosmo said. 'Like that white cat down the road.'

'I don't think I would ever have been named anything as common as that,' India replied. Sometimes she found herself sounding a little bit snobbish although she tried not to be. She was always having to remind herself that, just because she had pedigreed ancestors, it didn't make her any better than other cats, especially in this family, when all that mattered was whether you were a witch-cat or not. And she wasn't.

She looked at her six-month-old kitten with pride. Cosmo was nearly all black like his father, but had white paws and a white tip to his tail. Cosmo was her first kitten - an only one - and India thought him so



beautiful that it constantly surprised her that other cats in the street didn't stop to admire him more than they did.

Today was the day India had been dreading ever since Cosmo had been born. If only Cosmo's father, Mephisto, was an ordinary cat like her instead of belonging to a long line of witch-cats.

'Mother, tell me again what's going to happen today,' Cosmo said.

His mother tried to sound calm as she replied, 'You are to be tested to see if you are a witch-cat like your father or just an ordinary cat like me.' The witch-cat test involved mixing a drop of a special clear magic potion with a drop of kitten blood and seeing if the blood changed colour from red to green.

'I hope I'm a witch-cat' Cosmo said enthusiastically. Witch-cats were different to



ordinary cats. Only witch-cats could assist witches with their spells and get to ride on a broomstick and do all the other exciting things Cosmo's father had told him about.

India hoped he was too, even though she had never liked the witch Mephisto worked with who was called Sybil.

It was a good thing to be a witch-cat though and, if Cosmo passed the test, India knew that Mephisto would be very proud and pleased. Witch-cats were becoming quite rare and difficult to get hold of and witches paid a lot of money to buy new ones. As well as helping generally in all witching activities, witch-cats were especially valued for their powerful sneezes. India hadn't noticed anything special about Cosmo's sneezes so far, but Mephisto had told her that didn't mean anything. A witch-cat sneeze was only magical if it was mixed with the



other ingredients of a spell, and even then the sneeze of a kitten like Cosmo might not contain that much magic power. That was why the only true way to determine whether a kitten was going to turn into a witch-cat was to perform the special blood test.

India turned to look at the huge black cat entering their home through the gap in the garage door. Mephisto had the shiniest jet-black coat of any cat India had ever seen, and the darkest-green eyes. His big paws were twice the size of her delicate white ones. No wonder she had fallen in love with him when they'd met by the goldfish pond last year.

'So?' Mephisto asked Cosmo. 'Are you ready?'

Cosmo twitched his whiskers nervously. He greatly admired his father, but he was also very much in awe of him. Cosmo knew





how important it was that his father had a kitten who could follow in his footsteps, and he also knew he could only do that if he was a witch-cat.

Cosmo asked, 'Isn't Mother coming?'

India walked up to her son and gave him a last affectionate lick on top of his



Chapter 1

decided it was time she got changed.

She went upstairs to her bedroom and took off the clothes she had stolen from various washing lines – she didn't see why she should have to *pay* for this disgusting human clothing – and stood looking at herself in the long mirror, admiring her green belly button and bright-green toenails and fingernails. She went to her wardrobe and flung open the door. She had already decided to wear a red outfit today. That way, if the kitten spilt any of its blood on her then it wouldn't show.

Sybil smiled when she heard a familiar *miaow* from downstairs. Mephisto was here. She knew she mustn't get her hopes up, because Mephisto's kitten had an ordinary cat for a mother, but she was hopeful that it would still pass the witch-cat test. She could do with another witch-cat to help her with her spells.



COSMO AND THE MAGIC SPELLS

head. 'I'll see you later. I am not welcome in the witch's house. You know that.' India shivered at the thought of getting that close to Sybil. It was silly – and something that had caused a lot of arguments between herself and Mephisto – but there was just something about Sybil that made India's fur stand on end.

'Will I be welcome?' Cosmo asked, anxiously glancing across at his father. 'I've never been allowed inside before.'

'Today is different,' Mephisto said. 'Today is a special day. Come on. My mistress is waiting for us.'

Sybil was getting her witch-cat potion ready. That morning she had been to the special 'witches' section of the local supermarket to get some last-minute ingredients, and she was still wearing her human clothes. She



COSMO AND THE MAGIC SPELLS

'Just coming, my precious!' she called downstairs to Mephisto. He was more precious than he knew, she thought. If it wasn't for Mephisto, Sybil wouldn't be able to operate her spells-and-potions business at all – though she made sure Mephisto never knew that.

Mephisto was waiting for her in the kitchen. He had originally belonged to Sybil's grandmother and had been inherited by Sybil when the old witch had died. Sybil had had an idea that she could breed from him and sell the kittens to make an enormous profit, but Mephisto had ruined her plan by going all potty over that stuck-up white cat in the garage. Sybil had wanted to get rid of India, but she hadn't quite dared. She had seen an item on the *Witch News* telling how, in some parts of the country, witch-cats were starting to select their owners rather



than the other way round. Sybil wasn't prepared to risk upsetting Mephisto too much, though she doubted he had any new-fangled ideas of that sort since he still called her 'mistress' and believed that a witch-cat must always remain loyal to his witch, no matter what. Sybil had seen a film once about a butler who was so loyal to his master that he wouldn't give him up to the police even when it turned out he was a murderer. Mephisto was like that, Sybil thought. Though she wasn't quite sure how he'd react if he found out the truth about her.

Still... if she was careful, there was no reason why he *should* find out, was there?

Cosmo followed his father through the witch's cat flap. He was used to cat flaps, because his friend Mia, who lived next door, had one and she often invited him inside to



play. Mia's cat flap was see-through like a window, so you could peek into the kitchen from outside to check there were no humans about before entering. Sybil's cat flap had a cat-sized poster pasted on to it, which showed a cat being strangled by a pair of green hands. Mephisto had told him it was



just a deterrent to warn off strange cats, but Cosmo still got a fright every time he saw it.

Inside the kitchen Cosmo stayed on the doormat while Mephisto jumped up on to the kitchen table and miaowed his loudest miaow.

From the ground, the figure that entered the kitchen looked enormous. She was dressed entirely in bright red and her purple hair had rubber bats hanging from it. Rubber bats were quite popular with witches as hair accessories.

The witch beamed a big welcoming smile at the kitten. 'So,' she said in a loud voice. 'You are Mephisto's offspring!'

'What's an offspring?' Cosmo asked his father nervously.

'It's another name for a kitten,' Mephisto replied. 'Now hush! This is a very serious occasion.' Mephisto's eyes looked



different, Cosmo thought. Suddenly he realized that his father was nervous too – even though Mephisto was never normally afraid of anything.

'Well, Mephisto,' the witch addressed him, her dark eyes gleaming slightly. 'Are you ready to put your kitten to the test?'

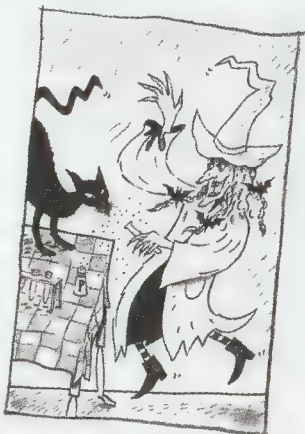
'I am, mistress.'

'Then you know what to do.'

Sybil placed a rack containing two test tubes on the table beside Mephisto. One held a clear liquid. The other was empty. 'All I need is the final ingredient and the potion will be ready,' she said, showing a pot of pepper in Mephisto's direction.

'What's the final ingredient?' Cosmo asked his father anxiously.

'A witch-cat sneeze,' Mephisto replied, leaning over the pepper pot and taking a deep breath. His black nose immediately



started twitching and he quickly placed it just above the test tube with the liquid inside. 'A-A-TISHOO!' he sneezed, and Cosmo could see little droplets of the sneeze falling into the tube.

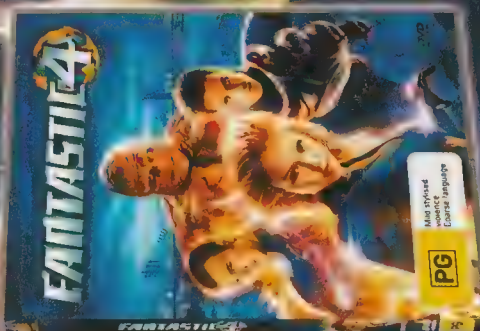
'SPLENDID!' Sybil congratulated him as the liquid started to bubble and green smoke began wafting out from the top. She turned to Cosmo. 'Now, my pretty . . . She had been saying that a lot since seeing *The Wizard of Oz* on television the previous Christmas. The wicked witch in that film was one of her favourite characters and Sybil loved the way she called everybody 'my pretty' and cackled loudly afterwards. Sybil had been trying to perfect the cackle too, but she wasn't very good at it yet. She pointed at Cosmo. 'Get up on the table and hold out your paw.'

**WILL COSMO PASS
THE WITCH-CAT
TEST? FIND OUT
BY GRABBING A
COPY OF COSMO
AND THE MAGIC
SNEEZE TODAY!**



DMAG

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FANTASTIC 4



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FANTASTIC 4



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Vulture Cu

With their saggy eye-bags, hooked beaks, and bald, wrinkly heads, vultures definitely ain't pretty birds. And if that's not enough, they eat rotten, smelly meat and squirt poo down their legs to cool off! DMAG just had to find out – are vultures really the grossest animals on Earth?



long neck way inside a dead animal's guts, imagine how much yucky stuff would stick to its head if it were covered with feathers! To compensate, the lean, mean, meat-eating machine vultures have hooked beaks for tearing up flesh, and rough tongues to lick meat from those hard-to-reach places.

STOP OR I'LL VOMIT!

Vultures can go for long periods without eating, but when they do find a tasty rotten treat, they totally gorge themselves. They can eat up to one quarter

LEFTOVERS, AGAIN?

Most animals would die if they lived off a diet of dead, decaying flesh. But not vultures! Special chemicals in their stomachs protect them from the germs in the rotting food. Vultures rarely kill their own food – other animals take care of that – and because vultures have weak beaks, they get other

animals tear through the creature's tough skin, then tuck into the sloppy seconds!

IT'S GREAT BEING BALD

Having a bald head might make vultures look pretty flamin' ugly. But when a vulture plunges its head and

FAST FACTS

NAME: Vulture

LIVES: Every region except Antarctica and Oceania

HABITAT: Plains, wetlands and mountains

APPEARANCE: Bald head, hooked beak, brown, black, grey or white feathers

LIFESPAN: Up to 30 years

DIET: Carcasses of dead animals

BIRDCALL: Hisses and grunts

ulture

■ NOW THAT'S DISGUSTING

Vultures hail from hot climates, and on particularly warm days, have nothing better than to let a sloppy poo slide down their legs to cool

DID YOU KNOW

Vultures move through the air by riding thermals, or rising pockets of hot air, so they can soar for hours without using much energy. Since thermals don't develop until the sun heats the ground, vultures don't bother getting out of bed until after 9am!

of their body weight, and sometimes have a hard time flying afterwards 'cos they're so full! In that case vultures have to sit on the ground to digest. If something threatens them, vultures hurl an icky, horrible-smelling vomit towards their attacker with incredible force!

off! The liquid evaporates as it hits the air and lowers their body temperature. And because vulture poo is quite acidic, it cleans off bacteria as well.


Someone should bottle that stuff!

■ CUT 'EM SOME SLACK

Vultures aren't going to win any popularity contests, that's for sure. But they do play an important role in the environment. By stomaching such gross meals, vultures cleanly and efficiently get rid of decaying animal carcasses,

ridding the ecosystem of disease. You've gotta thank them for that! Vultures are also found around cities and towns cleaning up road kill - that's how they got the nickname 'nature's garbage men.'

And even though the vulture diet is totally gross to us, vultures sometimes say no to truly rotten stuff, if they've recently eaten. And if they have a choice between something decomposing or something freshly killed, they usually go for the fresh meal. See, even vultures have standards!



We sent DMAG's daring adventurer Lynsen Garrison into the desert to find a rock. OK, when we say rock, we mean the biggest, massiest, most neck-cravtngly huge rock you will ever see in your life . . . Uluru.*

story in stone

BY LYNSEA GARRISON

THAT'S ONE ROCKIN' ROCK!

Uluru is the second largest monolith (that's the scientific way of saying very huge rock) in the world and attracts thousands of people every year. When I saw this enormous rock for the first time, I understood why! After years of just looking at tiny

Smack-bang in the middle of the Northern Territory, Uluru stands 348 metres tall and is 9.4 kilometres around. And that's not even the tip of the iceberg ... literally! Scientists actually found the rock to be similar to an iceberg because it continues underground for several kilometres!

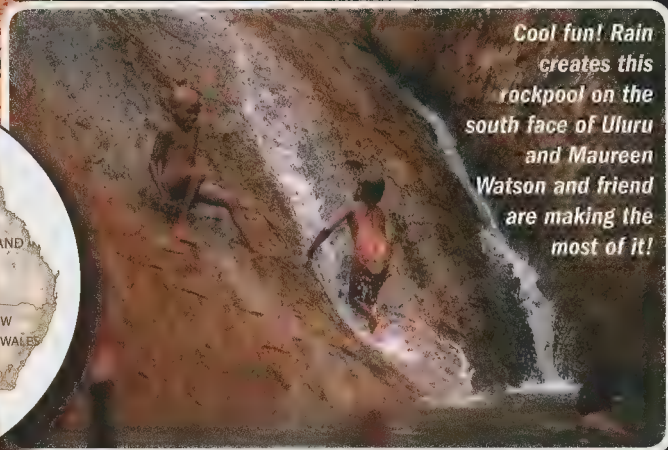
*Welcome to Aboriginal land,
welcome to our home*

pictures of Uluru, I actually visited the rock and felt very small and humbled by its impressive size.

It's no wonder that Aboriginal people hold the rock in such high regard.

ULURU'S MANY FACES

When you think of Uluru, you probably picture a bright red rock standing out as far as the eye can see. But did you know that it changes colours?



*Cool fun! Rain
creates this
rockpool on the
south face of Uluru
and Maureen
Watson and friend
are making the
most of it!*

ILLUSTRATION: EGG CURTIS © AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHIC

© Dawn Cline

DID YOU KNOW

Uluru used to be called Ayers Rock. It changed back to its original name, Uluru, in 1985 when the government handed the rock back to the Anangu, the traditional Aboriginal landowners.

Once in a blue moon you'll catch Uluru reflected in a rare pool of water. If you would like to see more fantastic photos like this one by David Carl, grab a copy of *Australian Geographic's* issue no. 50.

It's made out of sandstone, which is rich in crystalline minerals. These minerals make the colour change when light reflects off it. The rock can look

orange, fiery red, purple or blue and it's amazing to see how quickly

these changes occur! During sunrise and sunset, the rock changes from orange to blue in a matter of seconds! The changes are so drastic that it almost looks like it's a different rock each time.

Pukul ngalya yanama, Ananguku Ngurakutu

Welcome greeting in Yankunytjatjara



The traditional owners, the Anangu, speak two dialects, Yankunytjatjara and Pitjantjatjara.

THE MAKING OF A MONOLITH

Uluru didn't just form overnight; it was actually created over a 600 million year span! Back then, an ocean covered the middle of Australia and heaps of sand piled up on the bottom of the ocean. Over the years, the ocean dried out and the

sand was compressed

into rock. That hardened, massive pile of sand was pushed up by underground plates that tilted the rock so that it now comes out of the ground at an 85-degree angle! Talk about making deep impressions!

BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE

You'd think a simple rock wouldn't bring on a lot of problems, but it's actually at the centre of two very different



Lynsea on location.



cultures: those of Aboriginal (or Indigenous) and non-Indigenous

people. To many non-Indigenous Australians, the rock is a geographical phenomenon that

FAST FACTS

WHERE: Kata Tjuta

National Park in the Northern Territory

TRADITIONAL

OWNERS: The Anangu people

HEIGHT: 348m

CIRCUMFERENCE:

9.4 kms

MADE FROM:

Sandstone

*Pukulpa Pitjama, Ananguku
Ngurakutu*

Welcome greeting in Pitjantjatjara

DREAMTIME TALES

The rock plays a huge role in Aboriginal Dreamtime stories. Here is one story:

A feature that looks like a serpent can be seen on the Rock. Its python-like head sits above a cave while the bottom of the Rock appears to be gouged out by a giant snake! The Dreamtime legend tells of a battle between the python Kuniya and the poisonous snake Liru! This feature really does look like a snake, but because it's a sacred site, I wasn't allowed to take pictures of it. That's okay, though, because Uluru and its features were so cool that I'll always have them in my memory!

is fun to learn about, walk around and even climb! But to Aboriginals, the rock is an important and sacred part of their Dreamtime belief system.

Aboriginal people would rather tourists didn't climb Uluru, and not just because it's a sacred site; they are also saddened when people who attempt to climb the rock die, a number of at least 37 so far.

And did you know that most of the deaths on Uluru are a result of people chasing clothing or other possessions they dropped, or that blew away? When I walked all the way around Uluru, I counted heaps of hats on the ground scary! And according to Dreamtime, it's also bad luck to leave things behind on Uluru. So you may want to think twice about climbing the rock if you ever visit it; I sure did!

** OK, massiest and neck-braningly aren't real words, but they're great for getting a picture across!*





weird science

BOUNCY BUGS

Ever wanted to leap over buildings in a single bound? Well, you could be one step closer – Aussie scientists have cloned the same mega-bouncy protein **THE THINGS THEY MAY BE** super-elastic material could be used in the human body to repair worn out arteries or spinal discs, as an engineering material, or just to make super-bouncy rubber balls. But don't count on becoming an Olympic high jump champion just yet. A situation where "the 2024 Olympic team win medals because they've got bitten in their spines" is unlikely," one scientist told the ABC.



Chewing frenzy

Are you a notorious gum chewer like Violet Beauregarde? Well you're in luck, because a new teeth-cleaning gum may soon build the toothbrush! Developed by US researchers, the gum is made of a protein that attacks the bugs that cause dental disease, without mixing with the body's natural functions. Although originally designed for US soldiers, it means the gum would be ideal for those away from the bathroom for days at a time. But hold your horses ... the gum has to be tested before it can be approved. Until it does, I guess we're all stuck at the bathroom sink.



HAND-CRANKED LAPTOP

Have you seen those hand-cranked cars in old black-and-white movies? Well, researchers from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have made a new laptop computer that starts up the same way! If there's no power source, you just wind up the computer for energy – so you can use it anywhere. And it only costs \$100! The laptops will be donated to children in poorer countries, like Brazil and Thailand, and are being made in bright lime-green to discourage people from stealing it. How cool would it be to have one to show off to your all friends?

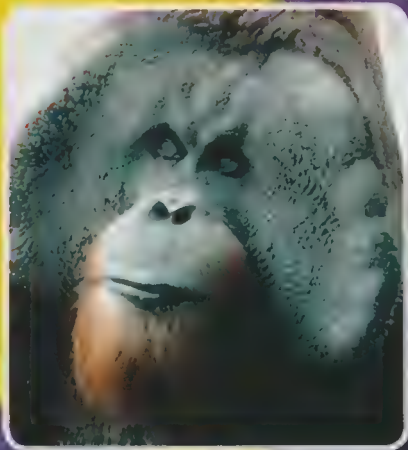




Did you

Did you know...

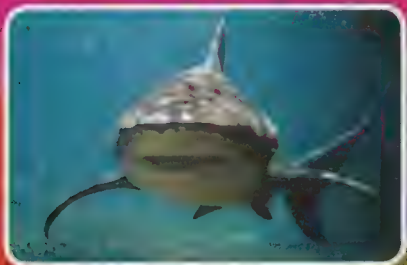
An orang-utan wraps leaves around its hands like gloves when it handles sharp objects, and sometimes uses leaves as napkins. How sophisticated!



Ranger Mick here, from the Australian Reptile Park. You won't believe the wacky, wild and just plain weird world of animal facts I've uncovered for you this issue...

Did you know...

Sharks have to swim constantly, or they'll sink. Their large, oily liver provides some buoyancy (floating ability), but they don't have a gas-filled bladder to keep them afloat like fish do. That means most sharks don't sleep, but instead have active and restful periods.



Did you know...

Squids have clear, blue blood! That's because their blood contains copper, rather than iron. And the giant squid has the largest eyes of any animal on Earth - their eyes can be 39cm across, which is larger than a human head!



Know?

Did you know...

NZ's kea bird is officially one of the smartest birds in the world. It's also called the 'clown of the mountains' because of its cheeky personality - it loves stealing windscreen wipers and strips of rubber around car windows!



Did you know...

Vultures projectile vomit on anything seen as a threat!



Did you know...

When a butterfly lands on a plant, it tastes the plant with sensors in its feet to decide whether or not to lay its eggs.



Did you know...

The Peregrine falcon is the fastest animal on Earth. It reaches cruising speeds of up to 110 km per hour, and get this - hits 320 km per hour as it drops down to strike its prey!



Did you know...

Most spiders are silent, but some spiders bark and whistle! The noise comes from rubbing together spines on their body, and they make it when hunting or courting.



Did you know...

When a baby koala is born, it's blind, hairless, and tiny - about the size of a jellybean!



Football fever!

Did you watch the Socceroos cruise into next year's World Cup soccer finals in Germany? Pretty awesome effort - 200 countries set out to qualify for the World Cup, and only 32 made it! Meet the men with the fanciest feet in Oz ...

Mark Schwarzer - the hero for the night has to be the Aussie goalkeeper. Schwarzer made an incredible save to push the game into a penalty shoot-out, then pulled off two more saves in the shoot-out to make sure our guys came out on top.

Marco Bresciano and Harry Kewell - The Socceroos' goal that pushed the game into extra time came from Marco Bresciano (pictured here), after some wicked set-up work from Harry Kewell. Kewell made the final pass to Bresciano, who sent the ball straight to the back of the net.

Shoot-out stars - Harry Kewell, Lucas Neill and Tony Vidmar all scored in the penalty shoot out, but it was John Aloisi who hammered in the winning goal ... and the Socceroos chased him half the length of the pitch in celebration!

Catch the guys in gold in the 2006 World Cup - it kicks off in Germany on June 9.

DMAG POLL

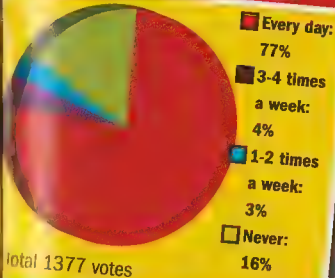
How many days a week do you exercise?

- ☐ Every day
- ☐ 5-6
- ☐ 3-4
- ☐ 1-2
- ☐ 0

To vote, take our online poll at www.dmag.com.au and check out DMAG next month for the results!

with report! The DMAG health

Last month we asked you on how many school days a week you ate breakfast. Most of you guys are doing well, but it looks like almost of a quarter of DMAG dudes go to school with a growling belly ... oh no!



every night - that means not staying up to watch telly!



Sleep well

Did you know primary school kids need 9-10 hours sleep to concentrate properly at school the next day? If you don't get enough sleep, you have a much shorter attention span than normal. So to get the best possible marks, you've gotta sleep well

Got a taste for tennis?

potentially spectators in last years Australian Open ate about 159,000 ice cream cones and 18,000 hamburgers! So get down to Melbourne from 16-29 January, and become part of local history. Oh, and catch some awesome tennis while you're there! www.australianopen.com



JANUARY SPORTS

ATHLETICS

22 - Telstra A-series (Perth)

BASKETBALL

29 - NBL All-star game (Townsville)

CRICKET

2-6 - Third Test: Australia v Pakistan (SCG)

25 - PM's XI v Pakistan (Canberra)

VB Series

14 - Australia v West Indies (MCG)

13-17 - Fourth Test, South Africa v England (Johannesburg)

31 - Fifth ODI, Bangladesh v Zimbabwe (Dhaka)

MOTOR SPORT

21-23 - Monte Carlo Rally

TENNIS

16 - Australian Open begins (Melbourne)

29 - Women's singles final, men's doubles final

30 - Men's singles final

SNOWBOARDING

15-23 - FIS World Championships (Whistler)

SOCCER

8 - FA Cup third round

The grand

What do **Astro Boy**, **Sailor Moon** and **Kimba the white lion** have in common? Well apart from being great anime series they're all **Fred Ladd's babies**. Who is Fred Ladd? Only one of the greatest producers in anime history...



Let's be honest, you wouldn't expect someone old enough to be your grandfather to be into anime. But this dude seriously is. He knows his *Gigantor* from his *G Force*, his *Astro Boy* from his *Marine Boy* and can tell you exactly why Disney's *Lion King* is amazingly similar to *Kimba*. He's fallen in love with *Sailor Moon*, adores all the Studio Ghibli movies and has even watched *The Incredibles* three times (OK it's not classic anime but it's fantastic animation) – we can totally relate! Plus he's worked with one of the biggest names in anime history: Osamu Tezuka (he's the guy who created *Astro Boy*. He's practically a god in Japan). So how did Fred get into anime? It's a long story (at least the way Fred tells it) – so we've cut it down a bit...

nddaddy anime

COMING TO AMERICA

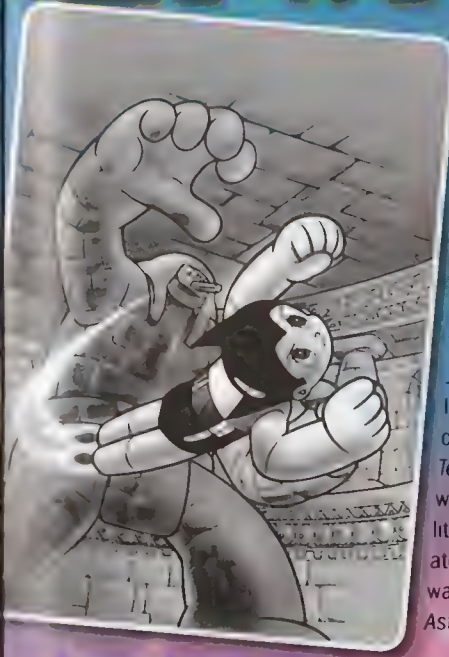
When Japanese reps brought the series to one of America's major networks, NBC, the first person NBC called was Fred (we won't go into why or we'd be here all night). Fred had been working on his own cartoon, *Pinocchio in Outer Space*, and

been such "good" times after all, but we'll save that discussion for another day.

In 1963, a black and white cartoon series about a little robotic boy with rockets in his feet aired on TV in Japan. It was called *Tetsuan Atome*, which translated literally to iron fisted atom boy. Yes, it was the original *Astro Boy*.

LONG, LONG AGO...

Back in the "good old days" (a time in history your grandparents will know well) the world had not experienced anime. This might lead you to think that they couldn't have



Similarities between Kimba and The Lion King

Similarities	Kimba the White Lion	The Lion King
Lion cub hero	Kimba	Simba
Father Lion	Caesar the king	Mufasa the king
Bird friends	Pauley Cracker the parrot	Zazu the hornbill
Wise old baboon friend	Dan'l	Rafiki
Arch-enemy lion villain	Claw	Scar
Henchmen hyenas	Tib and Tab	Shenzi, Banzai and Ed

NBC wanted to know if *Astro Boy* was just another Pinocchio series.

"I said I see similarities, I don't know any more Japanese than you know, but I see some differences too," says Fred. "I thought the design was great. He had a real cute face on him. How could you get angry at a face like that?"

There was nothing for it but to make a pilot series in English to see if the show would work with local audiences. And so they did, and it was a huge success.

Fred's anime career had begun.

ANIME ACTION

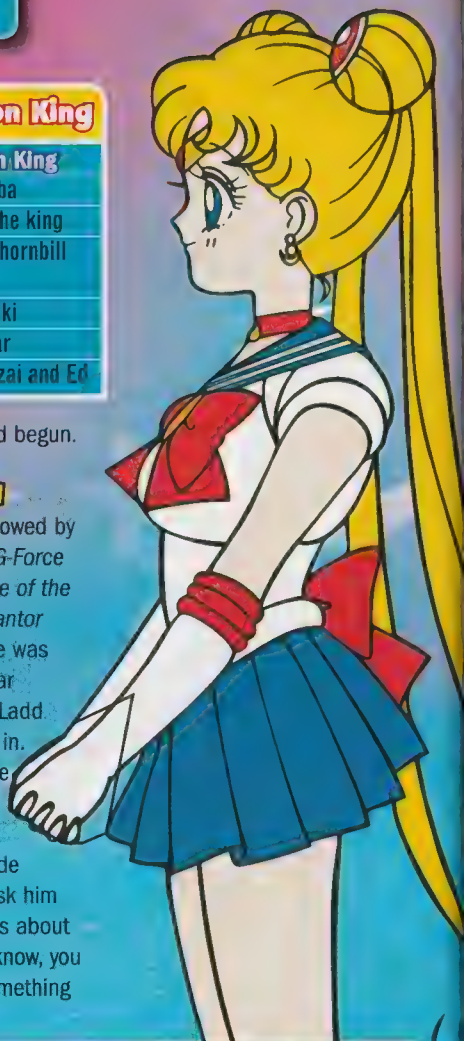
Astro Boy was soon followed by *Kimba the White Lion*, *G-Force* (which was called *Battle of the Planets* in the US), *Gigantor* and *Sailor Moon*. Anime was becoming a billion dollar industry, one that Fred Ladd had played a huge role in.

In fact Fred has become a bit of a living legend in the anime world. So next time an old dude says he's into anime, ask him some questions about it – you never know, you might learn something we did!

ANIME ALTER-EGO

We asked Fred Ladd to imagine if he were an anime character – what abilities would he have? But he's only allowed to choose from the series he's worked on...

Fred: The author behind *Sailor Moon* (Takeuchi Naoko) was a 27-year-old gal (she's now 38) ... her young men are such well thought through characters, maybe I could combine them, I would be the embodiment of their characters – I would be Mr Perfect!



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AMP

HANDS-ON FIRST



Happy New Year to all you gaming guys and gals! We've an absolute stack of games that we'll be checking out this month plus we test out the Spy Toy and a cool USB printer for your PS2. We'll even take a sneak peek at the revolutionary new controller for Nintendo's next-gen console. All in all, 2006 is shaping up to be the biggest year for videogames yet!

GAME GURU

CRASH Tag Team Racing

XBOX / PS2 /

GameCube

1 - 8 Players

Rating: PG

Neo Cortex is up to his old tricks, challenging Crash to what seems like a friendly kart racing comp. Of course, Cortex is actually out for revenge and hopes to smash Crash out on the track. In a neat twist, players can now "clash" with opponents, fusing their cars together to form an uber-vehicle with super weapons.

■ VERDICT:

This is fast and furious kart combat racing, starring Crash and the gang. Expect wild arcade style racing, slapstick humour and absolutely stacks of fun!



RATCHET GLADIATOR

PS2

1 - 8 Players

Rating: PG

Heroes across the universe are disappearing without a trace and Ratchet and Clank are sent

to investigate. Before you know it, they're abducted, and Ratchet is forced to compete in an underground TV show called "DreadZone". Strapped into battle-armour and armed to the teeth with destructive weapons and vehicles, Ratchet fights to survive increasingly deadly challenges.

■ VERDICT:

Ratchet Gladiator is a brilliant multi-player experience offering some of the best action styled gameplay available on PS2.



TONY HAWK'S AMERICAN WASTELAND

PS2 / XBOX / GameCube /

XBOX 360

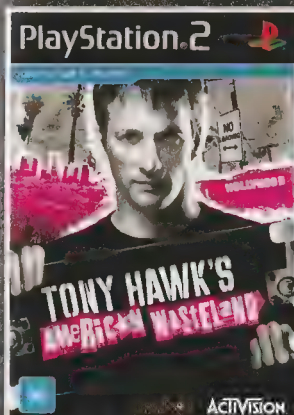
1 - 2 Players

Rating: M

Sporting a cool 80s punk flavour, American Wasteland is the welcome return of

ST LOOK

GROOVY GADGETS



this ever-popular series. This time, players have the freedom to explore the city of LA unhampered by loading screens, and the ability to choose which missions they like. You can

even swap your deck in favour of a BMX

and there are tonnes of customisation options available – totally cool!

■ VERDICT:

By ditching the loading screens and adding some cool missions, *American Wasteland* will be a sure-fire hit!

SpyToy & Epson PictureMate Personal Photo Lab

PS2

1 Player

Rating: G

Calling wanna-be secret agents! SpyToy is coming to the PS2. Offering two cool modes that turn your EyeToy into a high-tech spy gadget, you'll have hours of fun as a covert operative. Story Mode lets you join the Strategic Intelligence Agency for a series of covert missions involving code-breaking, creating identi-kit pictures of criminals and sky-diving into secured areas. Security Mode turns the PS2 and EyeToy into a nifty surveillance device to capture footage of intruders or trigger alarms. Better still, plugging a PictureMate Photo Lab into the USB port of your PS2 allows you to create photographic evidence from the video footage.

■ VERDICT:

SpyToy and the *PictureMate* are the perfect partners for budding sleuths, allowing them to capture incriminating video footage, print out photographic evidence and compile their secret files.

NEXT-GEN VIDEOGAME CONTROLLER

Nintendo REVOLUTION

Recently, Nintendo unveiled its top-secret controller for the Revolution. On first impression it looks like a remote control, however it has some truly innovative features. It's held in one hand and is motion sensitive. It also has some cool add-ons like the "num chuck" styled analogue unit and a more traditional controller set up which it slots into. This controller opens up a universe of possibilities. Just imagine playing the latest *Zelda* game, swinging the controller around like a sword and link-copying your moves in



PlayStation 2



game – totally cool!

■ VERDICT:

I just can't wait to try this baby out for myself, as it could very well change the way in which we play videogames in the future!



GAME REVIEWS



JAK X

PS2

1 - 6 Players

Rating: PG

Making a departure from their platform adventure

origins, Jak and Daxter are giving arcade-styled combat-racing a go! JAK X is an extreme racer jam-packed with stacks of weapons,



power-ups and tonnes of multiplayer mayhem on offer. Excellent cut-scenes drive the single-player storyline and there are heaps of different race modes to check out with your friends. So if you have a need for speed and an appetite for destruction, JAK X delivers an explosive burst of edge-of-the-seat driving action that's sure to satisfy!

RATING:

Game Visuals

8.5

Game Audio

8.5

Game Play

8.5

Fun Factor

8.5

Total Score

87

WALLACE & GROMIT:

The Curse of the Were-Rabbit

PS2 / XBOX

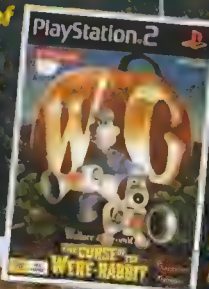
1 - 2 Players

Rating: PG

Closely



following the storyline of the hit animated film, this action/adventure has Wallace and Gromit doing battle with a horde of rampaging rabbits that are munching their way through the prize-winning veggies in the town of West Wallaby. Players control Wallace, Gromit and his newfound bunny buddy Hutch as they embark on a series of critter-capture missions. This captures the look and feel of the film and



has loads of hidden extras, making it a game that no Wallace and Gromit fan will want to miss!

RATING:

Game Visuals

8.5

Game Audio

8.5

Game Play

8.5

Fun Factor

8.5

Total Score

84

ADVANCE WARS:

Dual Strike

Nintendo DS

1 - 8 Players

Rating: PG



Anyone who's played Advance Wars on GBA already knows that it's one of the best turn-based strategy games available on any console.

Now, finally,

Dual Strike

invades

Nintendo DS

and the good news





Is that it totally ROCKS! Taking advantage of the system's dual screens, players can easily keep an eye on all their vital info, while watching all the action play out on the second screen. **Better**

still, the Map Editor returns, now allowing you to create new maps using the stylus and touch screen - highly recommended!

RATING:

Game Visuals	88
Game Audio	85
Game Play	88
Fun Factor	92
Total Score	89

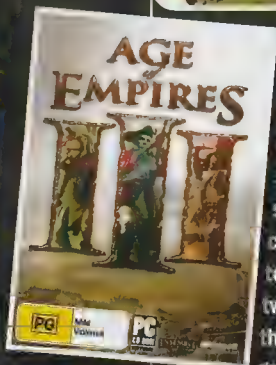
AGE OF EMPIRES III

PC

Single & Multiplayer

Rating: PG

If you're searching for a Real Time Strategy (RTS) with a historical grounding, you can't get much



new addition is Home Cities, which lend much needed economic, military and technological support to your colony - a nice touch. With over twenty missions that span over three generations, this is a

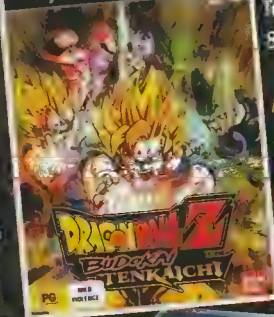
great RTS that offers weeks of entertainment!

RATING:

Game Visuals	93
Game Audio	86
Game Play	88
Fun Factor	92



PlayStation 2



Total Score
89

DRAGONBALL Z: Budokai Tenkaichi

PS2

1-2 Players

Rating: PG

If you're in the

mood for some DBZ fighting action, **Budokai**



Tenkaichi is a solid beat 'em up that allows players to re-create the epic battles from the anime. Choose your fave characters - with over 60 in all, the most ever in

any DBZ videogame - and get ready for a spectacular series of fights in the air, on the ground and even underwater. Die-hard DBZ fans should race out and grab it!

RATING:

Game Visuals	89
Game Audio	83
Game Play	88





CHEATS...

Game Guru lends a helping hand to some of our readers...

Dear Game Guru,

Can you give me some cheats for YU-GI-OH! Dawn of Destiny?

Thanks,

Nathaniel Guinan

Hi Nathaniel,

I had a bit of a search and found a few cheat codes that unlock some special cards in your starter deck. These cards are both rare and powerful, so they should prove useful. I hope that this helps you out.

GAME GURU

YU-GI-OH! DAWN OF DESTINY

UNLOCK DECKS WITH



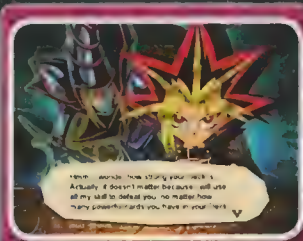
RARE CARDS

Enter one of the following codes as your name before you start the game and you will unlock the corresponding rare card in your deck.

KONAMI

Cosmo Queen Card

HEARTOFCARDS



Tri-Horn Dragon Card

XBOX

Zera the Mant Card

Hello Game Guru,

Can you tell me how I can get the two pearls in the grotto in Sudeki? Also, how do I get invincibility and other cheats in Sudeki?

I hope you can help

Isaac Hill

Hey Isaac,

I have some good news and some bad news. The good news is that I've put together some pointers for you, on how to get the two pearls in the Siren's Grotto. You'll find the mini walk-through for this on the page opposite.

Unfortunately, invincibility cheats, or any codes for that matter, don't seem to exist for Sudeki. If you are finding yourself in a bit of a jam with



Ask the guru

Do you have a question for the Game Guru? Or is there a game you'd like to see reviewed? Then email gamegururules@hotmail.com with your questions and suggestions.

difficult enemies, try saving before you face them. This way, if you are defeated you can go back to the enemy at a later stage, once your characters have become more powerful. If you stick with it, I'm sure you'll be fine.

GAME GURU

SUDEKI



chest in Aequis Falls. Once you have recovered the Shell Key you must use it to get by the barrier and then you can enter the Singing Siren Chamber.

Listen carefully to the Siren's Song and solve the puzzle by recreating the Siren's tune. You do this by stepping on the glowing rings on the floor that play different parts of the song.

Once you have strung together the correct combo

of sounds, the first pearl will be revealed. Collect it and then continue back to the previous area.

Then locate the giant clam in the Natatorium. You must now get both Ailish and Buki to the clam to receive the second pearl.

You can do this by pulling the levers and pressing the green button that creates paths to the clam.

Once you have solved this problem, get both characters



to stand on the glowing rings in front of the clam and it will open, offering up another pearl.

Finally, you can head back to the statue with the two pearls and give them to the statue. This will unlock the Shell Door, so that you can continue on your adventure.



MINI WALK-THROUGH

These are the basic steps that you need to complete to collect the two pearls in Siren's Grotto.

From the statue, go down the ramp and take the east door. Continue and you should go past a waterfall.

Now you must get the Shell Key, which can be found in the

DISCLAIMER:

While every effort has been made to confirm our charts, times and tips, we cannot be held responsible for errors that appear, or for any damage or effects the above may have on your system. Please be aware that you are using these codes at your own risk and that some codes may affect your game play - be certain to back them up before trying out any other codes.



THE ULTIMATE NINTENDOGS

Hints and Tips that will get your pup trained in no time at all!

So, you're in love with your Nintendogs pup. He's cute, he responds to your commands and as virtual pets go, he's the best.

However, as in real life, if you neglect your pup for an extended period of time he'll become dirty, get fleas and eventually run away! To stop this from happening, I've put together a huge collection of hints, tips and tricks that should make your dog training days a breeze. So, let's start out by picking out your new best friend.

Selecting your Nintendog is a very personal thing so be sure to take your time. There are three versions of the game and each of them has a different selection of pups available at the start of the game. I've listed these below, so if you're after a

particular breed of dog be sure to get the right version of the game.
Shiba Inu

CHIHUAHUA & FRIENDS

Chihuahua
German Shepherd
Boxer
Cavalier King
Charles Spaniel

Yorkshire Terrier
Shetland Sheepdog

DACHSHUND & FRIENDS

Miniature Dachshund
Golden Retriever
Beagle

Pug
Husky
Shih Tzu

NOTE:

Each of the three versions of Nintendogs has all of the dogs, however they must be unlocked during the course of the game.

■ Training Tips:

When training your dog, don't yell at it. Keep your voice calm and not too loud, and your pup will eventually learn any trick you want.

■ Teaching Tricks:

When teaching a trick with a voice command, use different length voice commands for



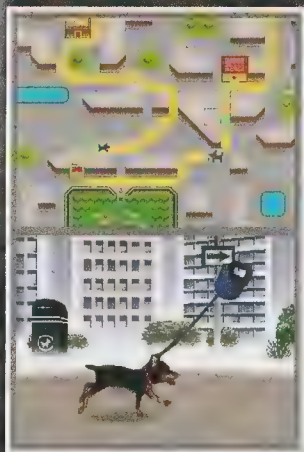
VERSIONS OF NINTENDOGS

LABRADOR & FRIENDS

Labrador Retriever
Miniature Schnauzer
Toy Poodle
Welsh Corgi
Miniature Pinscher



TRAINING GUIDE



each trick. If you use too many short voice commands, your Nintendog will get confused between the tricks and won't obey you properly. If this happens delete the trick and try a different length voice command.

■ Finding Presents

When taking your pup for a walk you might see a present lying on the ground. Pull your puppies lead to make them walk towards the present and pick it up. Even if the present has just gone off the screen, you can make your puppy pick it up.

■ Stop yourself from passing un-marked "?" boxes:

Sometimes when you're walking your dog, you'll notice a present go across the screen at seemingly random times. There's a chance you won't get it because you weren't paying attention. To prevent this, simply watch the map on the upper screen. If the dog stops moving on the map, but is still moving on the touch-screen, get ready to tug at the dog's leash so that you can pick up the question mark box.

UNLOCKABLE ROOMS:

Desktop -

Collect 6000 Trainer Points

Seaside -

Collect 12,000 Trainer Points

Outer Space -

Collect 18,000 Trainer Points

Northern Europe -

Collect 25,000 Trainer Points

■ Contest Tips:

Your best chance of winning in a contest is training. To win the disc competition, take your puppy for a walk to the park, and practise throwing the flying disc as long as you can. After one good session in the park your dog will be ready to win you lots of money. Make sure there are no other

dogs in the park, or you cannot train your dog properly.

■ Earn more money:

If you want to earn more money, buy more dogs so that you can enter lots of competitions in a day. With three dogs well trained, you can enter and win up to nine competitions per day, earning yourself lots of dollars.

■ Silent Master:

Your puppy will also respond to touch screen commands, as well as your voice. If you



don't want to call your puppy's name, tap the screen. If you want your puppy to sit, draw a line straight down the screen. Can you figure out any other touch screen commands?

■ Unlock more breeds:

There are a few different ways to unlock more breeds of dogs. The easiest way is to enter Bark Mode with a friend that has a different version of Nintendogs. You will unlock the breed of dog they are using. You will also unlock more breeds by increasing your trainer points and winning contests.

The John Marsden



A school where you do horse-grooming and wood-chopping? Where a best-selling author is your principal? It might sound too good to be true, but John Marsden hopes not...

the social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual sides.

DMAG: Apparently, when signing books, you write: "take risks" – why?

John: "Take risks" is a way of saying "be

adventurous!" I think people are too scared nowadays ... Mostly we're scared of getting a physical injury ... they are a part of life, and if we spend too much energy trying to protect ourselves from them we'll end up sick in the head, or sick in the spirit, or sick emotionally.

DMAG: What will kids learn at the new school you're opening in 2006?

John: I want kids to be involved in the outdoors, feeding chooks, chopping wood, pulling out blackberries, grooming horses, using chainsaws. I want a very active engagement with the outside world, with lots of excursions, and people coming into the school. Lots of school camps too. I want to have a school that develops not only the academic side, but also



DMAG: What inspired you to start writing the *Tomorrow* series?

John: I was interested to know how today's teenagers would react if put under huge pressure ... what would happen



With the students of Fitzroy Community School

school of life

TOP TIP

John Marsden's writing tips

- 1) Name everything! Don't say 'the car', but instead name it: 'the blue Commodore'. Not 'the tree' but 'the oak tree'. Not 'we went to the beach' but 'Nick and I went to Bondi.'
- 2) Your characters have to change, and in particular they have to change emotionally. When significant things happen to them, they have to be different people as a result, and the reader has to know that.
- 3) Give every character a different voice, so that they are clearly different to the reader. If the characters all sound the same, if they all use the same vocabularies and have the same rhythms to their speech, then they get pretty boring.

if Australia got invaded? I wanted to write a book set in the Australian bush, one that celebrated farming life ... a rip-roaring adventure story!

DMAG: And what about the Ellie Chronicles?

Johns The characters have become so much a part of me that I couldn't let them go. I wanted to get back in touch with them, to find out what's happening in their lives. Ellie, to me, has such a strong voice that she seems like she'll be part of my life forever.

DMAG: We also loved The Head Book, what is your fave saying from this?

Johns 'That's not a knife, this is a knife.' There are so many situations in life where you can substitute another word for knife, with very funny results.

DMAG: When you start writing a book, do you already know how it will end?

Johns I know very little, and certainly not the ending. All I know is the main character's voice, and where the character is ... in other words, I have some idea of the dilemma.

Cool schools



Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire is in cinemas now.

John Marsden starting up his own school made us think - what would schools run by some of our other favourite authors be like? Here are our thoughts on the classes they'd have:

J.K.Rowling: History of witchcraft; Potions in chemistry; How to write a best-seller

Matthew Reilly: Weapons and how to use them; How to be a commando; Conspiracy theories 101

Andy Griffiths: How to use puns in everyday language; The rude-word way to learn anatomy; Bum fighting for beginners.

Off the Shelf

MALVOLLO'S REVENGE

By Sophie Masson
When Toby's theatre



troupe looks upon a crumbling mansion in the outskirts of New Orleans. They're convinced their fortunes have changed. The owner, a spirited young girl named Sophie, is keen to join the troupe and soon she's got them a gig in a theatre in town. But Toby knows she's only going along with them to get her revenge on the man who murdered her father. But who is he? And will Toby be able to stop Sophie before she does something stupid?

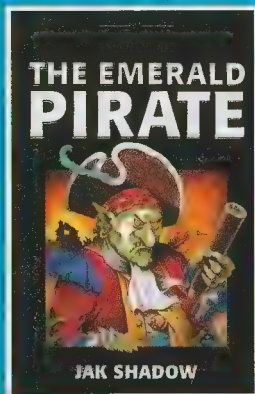
Mystical and eerie, this book is also a glimpse into another way of life - one loved it!

Ages 11 to 14

THE EMERALD PIRATE A F.E.A.R. ADVENTURE

By Jak Shadow

Once upon a time there was a series of books called *Choose Your Own Adventure* ... well this book is a variation on that. You decide how the story unfolds and how it will end. The Emerald Pirate is terrorising the seas, and it's up to you, as a F.E.A.R. (Fighting Evil



Always Ready) agent to stop him. You'll have to sail the seas, fight with pirates and battle zombies - cool fun!

Ages 7 to 11

THE STORY OF STONE

N.M. BROWNE

"Browne weaves a thrilling adventure that you want to repeat as soon as it's over!" *The Times*

THE STORY OF STONE

By N.M. Browne

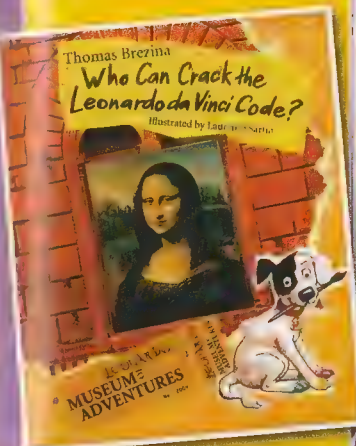
Nela is on an expedition with her dad, a Findsman, seeking evidence that the area around the stinking lake was the cradle of her people. She's desperate to prove herself to her father, but she can't resist going against his wishes, especially when it's in relation to the stone they found. Every time she touches it, she's transported back in time. Meanwhile, we see different glimpses of the past through the eyes of Jerat, a young fighter in training. This vivid and amazing fantasy will have you hooked!

Ages 12 to 14

WHO CAN CRACK THE LEONARDO DA VINCI CODE?

By Thomas Brezina,
illustrated by Laurence Sartin

You've heard all the adults going on about some fab book they've read called the *Da Vinci Code*. Well here's your chance to one-up



them next time they talk about it. Discover da Vinci's secrets, visit his studio and check out his inventions. This adventure book is filled with pictures, riddles, puzzles and even some jokes – everything you need to crack the Leonardo da Vinci Code – we loved it!

Ages 9 to 12

POETIC WINNERS



Miranda Allender (1), the Junior winner and Chris Summers, the senior winner (4th from left) with the judges and prize givers.

Do you like writing poetry? Would you like to see your name in print? Then why not enter the 2006



Some of the poets you'll find in *Poems by Young Australians*.

Taronga Foundation Poetry competition. The 2005



winners have just been announced. You can see all their poems in a fantastic book called *Poems by Young Australians Vol. 3*. The poems are seriously good so you're up against some stiff competition!

See www.tarongafoundation.org for more info.

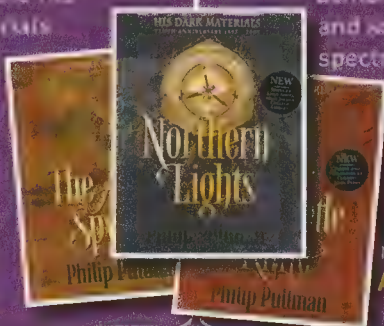
HIS DARK MATERIALS

By Philip Pullman

The tenth anniversary edition of the *HIS DARK MATERIALS* Trilogy has just been released – and it's must-read material. Moving

between different universes, these books full of incredible quests filled with angels, demons, wars and soul-eating spectres. If

you're a fan of Tolkien, you will HAVE to read these. Ages 10 up



Readers' Fiction

BELLY BUTTON
BLUES

By Eleanor McCall, age 12

"Miss Backslappin," I said, "I have a question... Why is our belly button fluff blue?"

My teacher gasped, she glared at me with angry, bloodshot eyes. "Get ... out ... NOW!"

I guess that meant she didn't know the answer. I always suspected that teachers didn't know everything. I got up and went into the hallway. I looked at my belly button and picked out the fluff. Another question sprung to my mind: how do we get the fluff in the first place?

I went to the library; this was very strange for me. And that wasn't the only thing that was strange...

"What do you want?"

I spun around and saw the librarian smiling creepily at me.

"Do you have any books on bellybutton fluff?" I asked shyly.

His smile faded, like a well-worn piece of old wood.

"The library is closed now!" he announced. So I sprinted off, glad to be out of there.

The first thing I saw when I got home was my little brother picking his nose. "Gross, Andrew," I said. He smiled then continued with his task.

"Mum!" I yelled, "I need to talk to you."

Mum clambered down from the roof. "Yes, honey?"

Taking a big gulp of air I said, "Why do we have bellybutton fluff?"

Mum forced a smile "I don't know love, insulation?"

I glared at her "Why were you on the roof?"

Mum looked at me nervously.

This month's winner, Eleanor, has won a \$50 Dymocks gift voucher and is in the running to win \$1000 cash!

"Fixing the aerial, go away, I'm busy."

Strange, I thought, we don't have an aerial, we have a dish. As I was walking to my friend's house, a strange light appeared above me, I looked up.

"AAAAHHHHHHHHHHH!"

I was being sucked up into an adult spaceship! I looked around the inside, feeling faint. As I turned, I saw an alien! He (or she, I couldn't tell which) was purple with pink spots, had green hair and twenty or so arms.

"You infuriating mud dweller" he/she spat. "Stop taking out your tracking device, do you know how much those things cost?!"

"What tracking device?" The alien stared at me with its many eyes. "Bellybutton blues" is all it said. *Think did you know?*

"I think we need something a bit more durable." I saw no more.

The next day at school I put my hand up "Miss Backslappin, *Why do we have yellow boggers?*" Our teacher gasped, she glared at me with angry bloodshot eyes. And as she did, something dawned on me. Maybe Andrew knew more than I gave him credit for.

THE END



Digby's what's hot reading list

1. The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

by C.S. Lewis

2. Matilda's Revenge

by Sophie Masson

3. Who Can Crack the Leonardo da Vinci Code?

by Thomas Brezina

4. His Dark Materials Trilogy

by Philip Pullman

5. The Story of Stone

by N.M. Brown

6. Cosma and the Magic Shoes

by Gwyneth Rees

7. Jasper Fforde (Socratic Legend): The Game of Life

by Johnny Warren and Deborah Abela

8. The F.E.A.R. Series

By Jak Shadow

9. The Ella Chronicles

by John Marsden

10. 36 Greys

By DMAG

WIN \$1000 CASH
— just for you! Plus
**\$5000 worth of books for
your school in our 2006
Writing Competition!**

DMAG and Dymocks invite you to enter
our National Writing Competition!
EVERY STORY PUBLISHED IN DMAG
WILL WIN A \$50 GIFT VOUCHER FROM
DYMCKS, AND THE ANNUAL WINNER
WILL WIN \$1000 CASH, **PLUS \$5000
WORTH OF BOOKS FOR THEIR SCHOOL!**

Send us a 500 word story. If your
story is printed in DMAG you will win
a \$50 gift voucher from Dymocks and
you'll become a finalist in the annual
competition to win \$1000!

The annual winner will be chosen by a
panel of judges including authors and
literary experts.

Entries are now open for the 2006
National Writing Competition.

See www.dmag.com.au for tips.

Proudly sponsored by

DYMCKS
BOOKSELLERS



The Children's
Book Council
of Australia

& supported by

Send your entry to DMAG Writing Competition, PO Box 321 Terrey Hills NSW 2084. See page 114 for terms and conditions. And remember, all entries must have this form attached with the following information to be eligible:

Name Age
Address
Suburb State
Postcode Ph ()

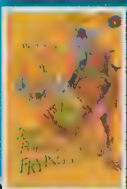
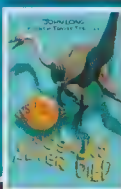
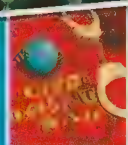
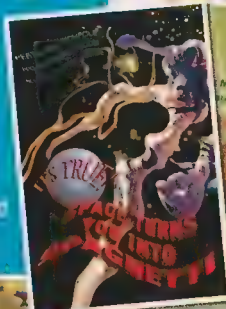
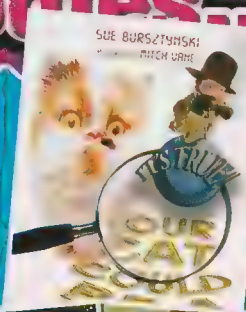
All entries must be the original and sole work of the entrant.

D'Goodies...D'Goodies...



It's True – 18 Books to win!

Did you know that you eat poison everyday, or that your cat could be a spy? Well then this is the pack for you! There are 18 fact filled books to collect and we have FIVE packs to give away



Shark Boy & Lava Girl 3-D

Grab the popcorn, put on the glasses and sit and enjoy the adventures of Shark Boy and Lava Girl. We have 10 awesome packs to give away. Each pack includes the Adventures of Shark Boy & Lava Girl in 3D on DVD, beach towel, goggles, a frisbee and a back-pack.



D'Goodies...D'Goodies...

Win an Xbox! Crash Tag Team Racing

Crash is back in his new game *Crash Tag Team Racing* and to celebrate, one lucky DMAG reader could win an Xbox console, THREE Crash games: *Crash Tag Team*, *Crash Twinsanity* and *Crash Nitro Kart*; and a *Crash Tag Team Racing* Figurine. We also have TWO PlayStation®2 and TWO Xbox packs to give away. Each pack includes: *Crash Tag Team Racing* and *Crash Twinsanity* games and a *Crash TTR* Figurine.



Age of Empires III

Build empires, explore the New World, and discover civilizations. The graphics are fantastic. We have FIVE of these great PC games to give away.



Watch and Play

New from Nickelodeon Watch and Play, watch your fave DVD and get a bonus toy. We have 12 packs give away. Each pack includes three of the DVDs below.



How to enter

To enter, write the competition name on an envelope and send it to PO Box 321, Terrey Hills, NSW 2084 with your name, age and address on the back. For the Shark Boy & Lava Girl competition, colour in the picture on page 57 and send it to us. For all other competitions on this page, answer this question: What movie do you want to see and why? See page 114 for terms and conditions.

Drawing

WITH EINHSTEIN



DULL AND TIRED EYES

pick on. It could be the hair, the nose, or just shapes.



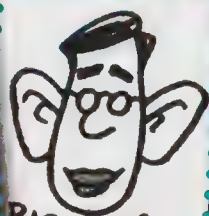
SQUARE CHIN

A good start is to look at the shape of the person's head and compare it to a fruit – it could be a mango, a peanut, a pear or even a banana! As Einstein always says, creativity and imagination

So if you want to caricature someone, you have to look carefully at their characteristics and choose one or two of



HUGE NOSE

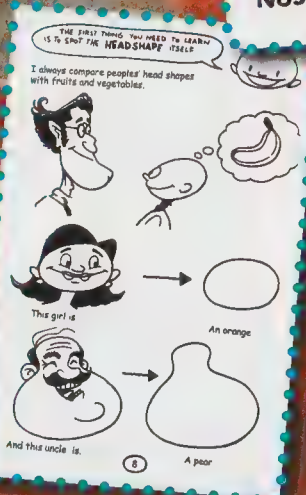


BIG EARS

Crazy Caricature

Know what a caricature is?

A caricature is a funny drawing that resembles somebody in an exaggerated way. It basically distorts the essence of a person to create something that looks like them, but is really exaggerated!



are the most important thing to make drawing.

After deciding which head shape to use, you just have to add details like the nose, eyes, mouth, and hair. Have fun!

Featuring cartoonist Einstein Kristiansen.

Einstein was brought to you by Faber-Castell



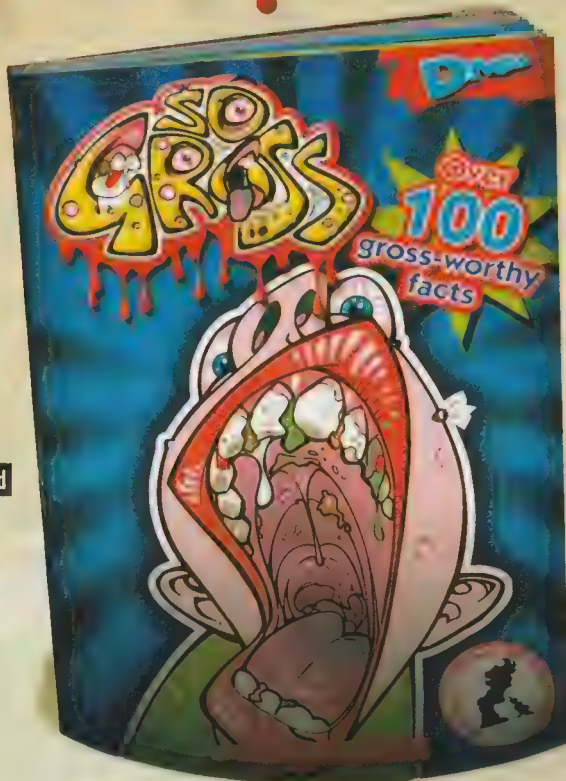
Repulsive content
inside!

The truth about . . .

puke

germs

Learn the science
behind over a hundred
questions asked
by DMAG readers
and answered in an
informative and
funny way.



farts

guts

snot

poo



GET YOUR COPY BEFORE IT HITS THE BANNED LIST AT:

CRATES

Australian
GEOGRAPHIC

Target.

DYMOCKS

ANDERSON & ROBERTSON

BIG W
25 MILLER

Kmart

BORDERS. MYER
BOOKS MUSIC MOVIES CAFE



A super-gross partnership between



and



A Mort Thort



On a beautiful day like today
what's there to worry about?



I don't worry about my horns...



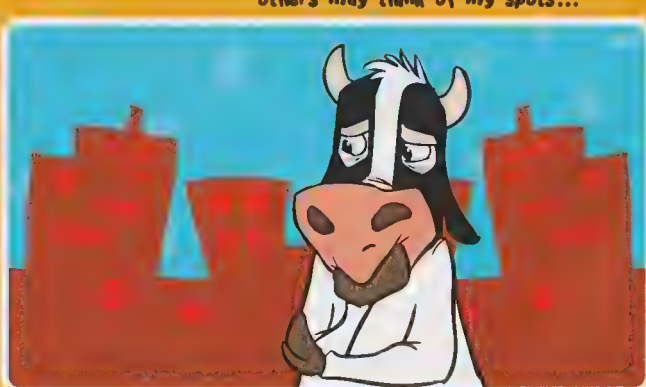
I don't worry about my weight...



I don't worry about what
others may think of my spots...



I don't worry about my
grumbly belly...



then again, sometimes I worry that I don't worry.

WORT SNORL

**FROGrensic
Detective**

FLY'S BABIES
ARE GOOD FOR
FISHING BAIT
AND EATING
DEAD STUFF

WORMS
ESCAPE! ESCAPE!



UUURRRGH!
YOU ATE
A
MAGGOT!!

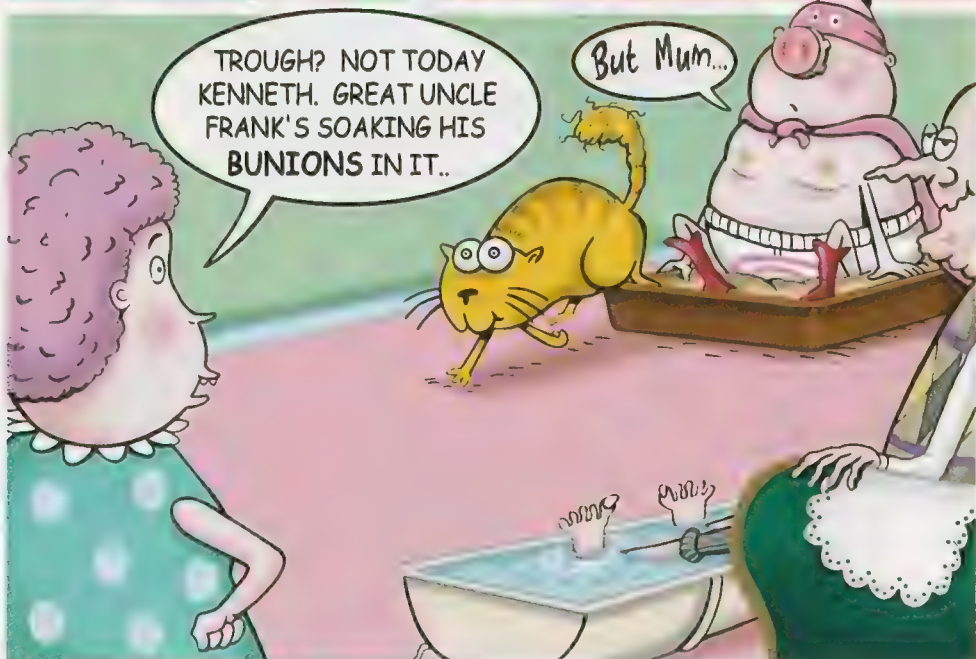
EATING
MAGGOTS IS A
PERK OF THE
JOB!

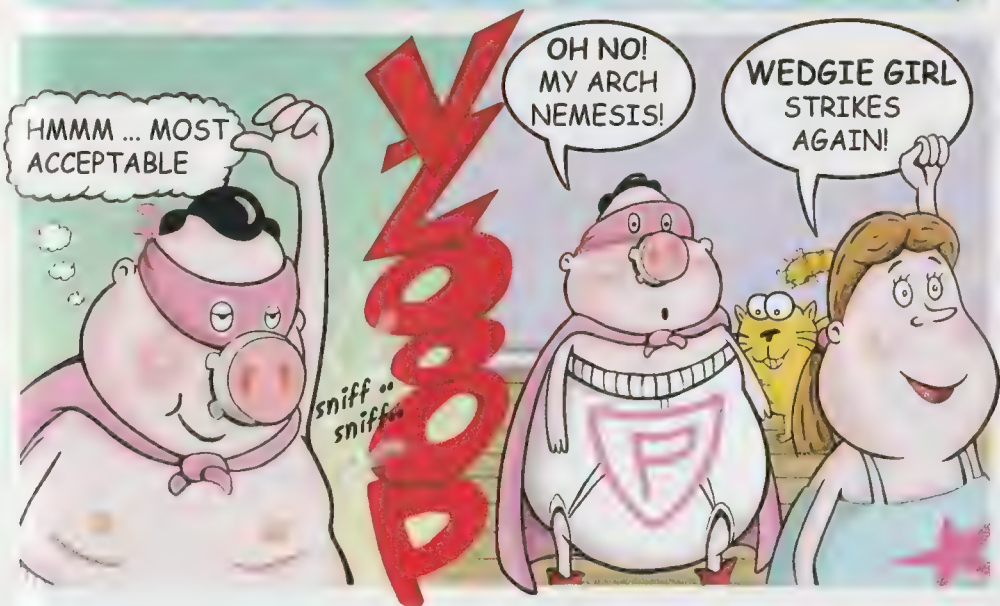


© Jones

END







LUMPY THE SCHOOL MASCOT
HAS JUST WOKEN UP...



... THE BATS ARE DOING CARTWHEELS
IN THE MORNING AIR...



... IT'S JUST THE
BEGINNING OF
ANOTHER DAY
FOR TOMMY,
HIS FRIENDS
AND THE REST OF...

THE CREEPY KIDS OF HORROR HIGH

© 2005 Rich Warwick



GOOD
MORNING
FRIGHTS,
FIENDS
...AND YOU
TOO,
TOMMY.



MORNING
MR SPOOKISH.



I TRUST YOUR ESSAY FOR THE
HISTORY OF HORROR HIGH
COMPETITION IS GOING WELL?



YES SIR. WE WERE JUST
OFF TO THE LIBRARY
TO START, UM, I MEAN
FINISH IT OFF.



GOOD! SO
YOU WON'T
MIND
READING IT
OUT THIS
AFTER-
NOON.

AT THE SCHOOL LIBRARY...



OKAY GUYS, WHAT DO WE HAVE SO FAR?

I FOUND OUT THE HORROR HIGH BUILDING
USED TO BE A TURNIP LICKING FACTORY.



NO WAY! I WAS TOLD
IT WAS A REST HOME
FOR LIMPING LIZARDS.



YOU CAN'T BOTH BE RIGHT. WHERE
DID YOU GET YOUR INFORMATION FROM?

STANLEY SNAKEBREATH
THE SCHOOL SNEAK!



SOMEONE
MENTION
MY NAME?

STANLEY SNAKEBREATH!
WE SHOULD NEVER HAVE
LISTENED TO YOU.

HA! AND WITH
YOU LOT OUT
OF THE WAY
I'M BOUND TO
WIN THE ESSAY
COMPETITION.

NOT UNLESS
WE STUDY
LIKE WE'VE
NEVER
STUDIED
BEFORE...

...AND I'VE
NEVER STUDIED
BEFORE SO IT
SHOULD BE EASY!

THIS BOOK MIGHT BE USEFUL.

HORROR
HIGH-
A
SECRET
HISTORY

CLICK!

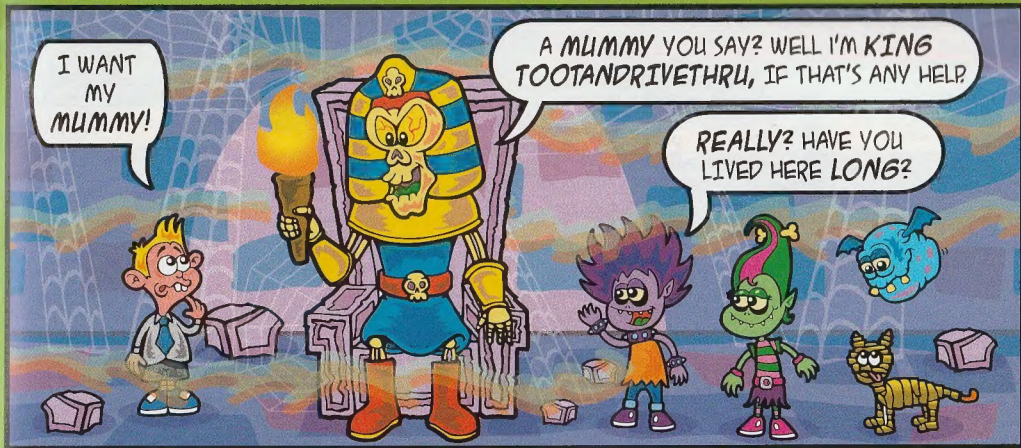
TRAP-DOOR!!!

WHUMF!!

ANYONE GOT A TORCH?

YES, I HAVE.

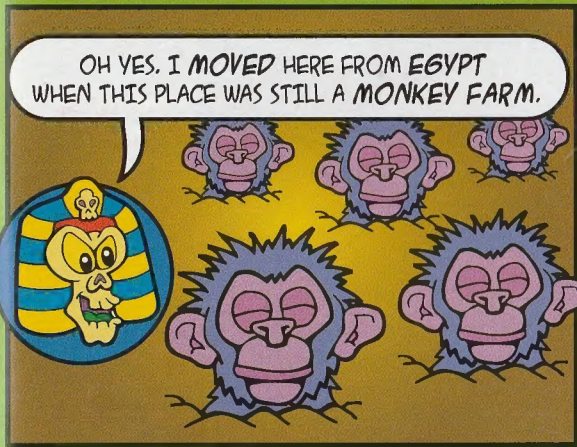
THERE,
THAT'S
COSIER,
ISN'T IT?



I WANT MY MUMMY!

A MUMMY YOU SAY? WELL I'M KING TOOTANDRIVETHRU, IF THAT'S ANY HELP

REALLY? HAVE YOU LIVED HERE LONG?



OH YES. I MOVED HERE FROM EGYPT WHEN THIS PLACE WAS STILL A MONKEY FARM.



MMM, SO YOU KNOW A BIT ABOUT THE HISTORY OF HORROR HIGH THEN?



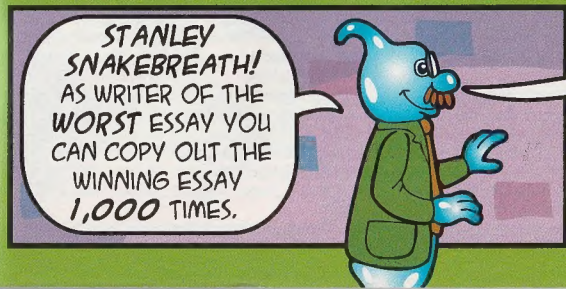
THAT AFTERNOON...

ESSAY COMP

...AND THAT IS THE SECRET HISTORY OF HORROR HIGH.



TOP MARKS! AS A REWARD YOU CAN TAKE THE REST OF THE DAY OFF.



STANLEY SNAKEBREATH! AS WRITER OF THE WORST ESSAY YOU CAN COPY OUT THE WINNING ESSAY 1,000 TIMES.



OH, AND MISS ANYTHING OUT AND YOU ARE HISTORY!

PUZZLE ANSWERS

WordMix

1. Ladybird
2. Butterfly
3. Shoehorn
4. Cowboy
5. Fanbelt
6. Ringleader
7. Starfish
8. Frogman
9. Earwig
10. Toenail

Santa's list

santa laus	wrapping
candy cane	paper
decorations	sleigh
tinsel	bauble
pudding	the sooner
fairy lights	you go
presents	to bed,
reindeer	the sooner
elf	it will be
toys	christmas

Bear puzzle



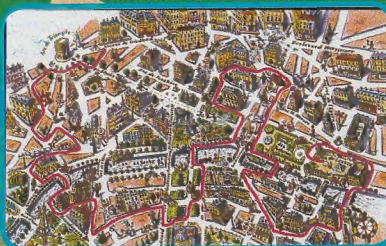
Crossword

- | Across | Down |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Sports | 2. Relaxation |
| 3. Spade | 4. Palmtree |
| 5. Sunbake | 5. Shell |
| 6. Dolphin | 7. Hot |
| 8. Towel | 9. Wet |
| 9. Holiday | 11. Party |
| 12. Under-water | 12. Umbrella |
| 13. Waves | 14. Shark |
| 15. Suncream | 17. Picnic |
| 19. Great | 18. Beach |
| Barrier Reef | 20. Fishing |
| 20. Icecream | 23. Crab |
| 21. Sun | 25. Aloha |
| 22. Coral | 28. Music |
| 23. Hawaii | 29. Sand |
| 26. Sail | 30. Fiji |
| 27. Exotic | 31. Lake |
| 29. Surfing | |
| 32. Island | |

Narnia wordfind



Paris maze



Winners! DMAG Issue 43

Robots: Connor Fitzpatrick, Zack Durnford, Janine Mares, Harrie Oates, Connor Rippon, Jonathan Cornford, Morgan Brenner, Kiara Whippy-Davis, Allan Sok, Remy Trusler, Kaytem Bernard, Nathaniel Agnew, Tristan Blizzard, Alexi Currie, Monique Sader, Glen Mawbey, Sean Prentis, Hannah Solly, Sam Parry, Brad Bishop, Trish Groenewold, Cathreen Ganesharotnam, Mackenzie Burge, James Smith, Peter Hamish, **Howls Moving Castle Winners:** Judd Flinders, Jason C, Aylard Leam, Emily Dowle, Ayla Cresswell, **Runners up:** Kai Kruger, Tom Palesey, Nicole Kelly, Sally White, Jake Durnford, Jesse Bolin, Jesse Bayer, Jackson Clarke, Ben Porritt, Hayden Lever, Dale McTernan, Ian Christy, Alex Hudson, Joshua Kelly, Hilton Stephens, **Pokémon Winners:** Ben White, James Dean, Gary Harkness, Tyrone Cai, Robert Beare, **Runners up:** Tom Tom, James Lawler, Gemma Walker, Laim Sanders, Jesse Schubert, Natalie Bebeck, Hamish McMurdie, Ryan Law, Daniel Emmott, Steph Van Bael, Kenny Luu, Jayden Harberger, Jonathan Driver, Oliver Stuart, Fin O'Sullivan, **A Date with Eric:** Mitchell Waller, **Adopt a Dolphin:** Mercedes Lyla, Tenille Macgregor, Ellen Pulman, Lachie Thomas, James Godfrey, Bedia Kisa, **Hating Alison Ashley:** Sally Hungerford, Kimberley Canu, Ellysha Allen, Minna Ansell, Nicola Smith, Eleanor McCall, Jennifer Ross, Ann-Marie Norman, Rachel Britton, Janice Young, **Fart Watch:** Alice Beasley, Kate Hawkins, Blake Kelly, Georgia Campbell, Tony Mahood, James Britton, M. Lewis, Keippa Skehan, Jack Aldis, Jaidyn Job, **Five Children & It:** Eloise Miller, Jason Rodriguez, Joshua Roberts, Dillon Whalley, Jessica Lindsay, Amie Cartwright, Jorja Denney, Jack Montgomery, Joseph Keaton, Lucy Sammons, **RSPCA Rescue Vehicles:** Megan Collins, Jade Roberts, Peta Jones, **Dr Who:** Kathryn Kutchel, Kieran Hacobian, Ashlee Warwick, Brock Hamann, J Jenkins

Terms and Conditions of Entry

1. Unless specified otherwise on individual competitions, entry to all competitions is restricted to Australian, New Zealand, Singaporean and Malaysian residents under the age of 15. 2. All entries must include name, address and age of entrant to be valid. 3. All entries become the property of DMAG and will not be returned. 4. Entering the competition assigns copyright to the promoter. 5. The promoter is DMAG. 6. Chance plays no part in determining the winner. 7. Age will be taken into consideration when judging. 8. Each entry will be judged on creative merit. 9. The judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. 10. Winners will be notified by mail and the names of the winners will be published in the April 2006 issue of DMAG. 11. The promoter shall not be liable for any damage or loss suffered in connection with any of the prizes. 12. Any change in value of the prize between the publishing date and the delivery date is not the responsibility of the promoter. 13. Unless stated otherwise on individual competitions, the closing date for this issue's entries is the 31st January 2006 EXCEPT FOR VALIANT AND CHICKEN LITTLE, WHICH CLOSE 10TH JANUARY 2006. 14. Competition entries must be the entrant's own work and must not be plagiarised. 15. It is the responsibility of the entrant to ensure copyright for their entry is not assigned elsewhere. 16. Allow six weeks for prize delivery. 17. Prizes are not transferrable or redeemable for cash.

SINGAPORE residents send your entries to: ALLSCRIPT ESTABLISHMENT PTE LTD 605A MACPHERSON ROAD #04-04 CITIMAC INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX SINGAPORE 368240 **MALAYSIAN residents** to: ALLSCRIPT ESTABLISHMENT SDN BHD LOT 886, UNIT B-7, JALAN SUBANG 9, TAMAN PERINDUSTRIAN SUBANG, OFF JALAN PUCHONG HICOM, 47500 SUBANG JAYA SELANGOR, MALAYSIA. Please include the name of the competition on your envelope.

JOKES

Knock Knock
Who's there?

Dennis!
Dennis who?

Dennis says I need to have a
tooth out!

What do you call an alien with
no ears?

*Anything you like. He can't
hear you!*

What do prisoners use to call
each other?
Cell phones.

What do you call a prehistoric
monster when it's sleeping?
A dinosnore.

What do short-sighted
ghosts wear?
Spooktacles.

What happens when
cricketers get old?
They go batty!

Why are basketball players
never invited to dinner?
*Because they're always
dribbling.*

Why did the boy wear a nappy
to the party?
Because he was a party-pooper.

Why is it easy to trick a
vampire?
'Cos they're all suckers!

What did one ghost say to the
other ghost?
Do you believe in people?

What do you get when you cross
a vampire and a snowman?
Frostbite.

Why can't you tell jokes
to skeletons?
*Because they keep falling
to bits.*

What do you get when you cross
a black cat with a lemon?
A sour-puss!

What is black and white and
never changes colour?
A zebra.

What do you get if you cross a
clown with a goat?
A silly billy.

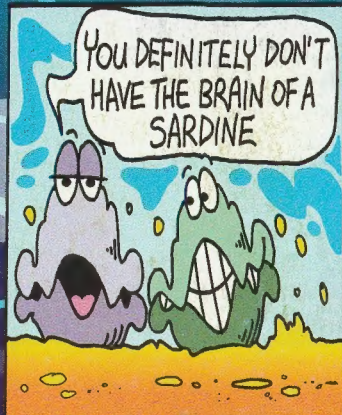
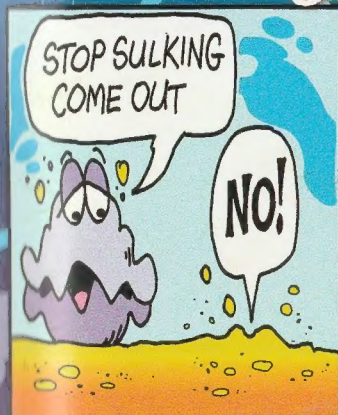
How do you get a baby
astronaut to sleep?
Rocket.

What's green and dizzy?
A frog in a Blender!

FISHY



by Richard Jones



PLAY AS MAN. PLAY AS KONG.

PETER JACKSON'S KING KONG THE OFFICIAL GAME OF THE MOVIE



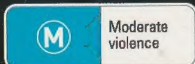
Break jaws, slam enemies,
and throw massive objects in Kong's
third-person battles.



Use weapons, traps, and your team
wisely to survive in first-person as Jack.

November 2005

www.kingkonggame.com



PlayStation 2

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PlayStation Portable

XBOX

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NINTENDO
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